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THE NEW MANIFESTOS OF THE CZAR.

THE plague of Russia is upon us. It is singular enough, and we have not seen it remarked elsewhere, that this plague always breaks out in conjunction with another. Russia and the cholera go hand in hand in their invasions. The first time that Europe was startled by a visitation from the Asiatic Cholera, was in the year 1832, when the Czar had poured his merciless legions into Poland, and was crushing the spirit of that gallant nation. Cholera broke loose again in 1848 and 1849, and so did the Emperor Nicholas. In April, 1848, when cholera was making its way towards the west, the Emperor of Russia was fulminating his wrath against the German, French, and Hungarians, in a remarkable proclamation, half political and half religious, which was noticed in this journal at the time. The Emperor denounced the "devastating plague" of freedom, declared his intention to encounter it on whatever side it might present itself, and warned the nations that they had but to submit, for "God was on his side." In 1853, the cholera and the Emperor are again at work; and we have yet to learn which of the two shall cause the greater misery and desolation, or whether political science and the sense of right and justice—nerving the hands and inspiring the hearts of millions—will be able to cope as effectually with the one plague as sanitary science is likely to do with the other.

Two remarkable documents have recently been issued from St. Petersburg—the head-quarters of the Political Pestilence: the first, dated 31st October, bears the signature of the Count de Nesselrode; the second, dated 3rd November, is signed by the Emperor himself. One document is addressed to the diplomatic agents of Russia in all the Courts of Europe, to be communicated to the Governments to which they are severally attached. The other notifies to the Russian people—and, through them, to the world—that Russia is at war with Turkey. The tone of these two State papers is very different: the earlier is the more moderate, reasonable, and truthful of the two; though the remembrance of the Count de Nesselrode's egregious fiction—so satisfactorily disposed of by Lord Clarendon and M. Drouyn de l'Huys, that the Russian troops had only taken possession of Moldavia and Wallachia because the British and French fleet had sailed to Besika Bay—might have led the world to suspect a similar perversion of the truth in the Count's new diplomatic note. But the Russian Minister appears to have profited by the castigation and exposure which he received. Notwithstanding the declaration of war on the part of Turkey, his tone is more conciliatory than before to the rest of Europe. He expresses a wish that negotiations for peace may yet prove successful, and, if not, that the war may be "concentrated" between Russia and Turkey; concluding with a

significant hint that the interference of Great Britain and France in the quarrel, will change the war from a local into a general one

The Emperor's manifesto, issued three days after that of Count Nesselrode, is so extraordinary as to have diverted attention from its predecessor, and to have monopolised the surprise, if not the indignation, of every truth-loving and honest man in Europe. It is difficult to characterise the document as it deserves, without employing words which are too strong for the ears of polite society. But, whether we call the assertions of the Emperor mistakes, errors, perversions of the truth, inaccuracies, or fictions as gross as the famous Besika Bay romance of Count Nesselrode, does not greatly signify. The meaning is obvious; and the true epithet, if unspoken or unwritten, has presented itself long ere this to the mind of every one who has read the proclamation. When the Emperor states "that the Great Powers of Europe have in vain endeavoured by their exhortations to shake the blind obstinacy of the Ottoman Government"—that the Porte has issued a proclamation "replete with false accusations against Russia," and that it has "enrolled in the ranks of its army the revolutionists of all countries," he makes assertions which are simply and notoriously untrue. To attempt to disprove them by a recapitulation of the real facts would be a work of utter supererogation. But the question naturally arises, does the Emperor believe what he asserts? or,



A TURKISH SCRIBE.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

does he wilfully and consciously give currency to statements so perversely erroneous, with a view of influencing public opinion in his own dominions? It is possible that this last view of the case is the correct one—that the “orthodox Lord Emperor” thinks it essential to cast dust in the eyes of his ignorant subjects, to maintain his dignity and his character for infallibility, unassailed and unimpeached amongst them; to make them believe that any war into which he pleases to enter is not only a just but a holy one; and that his enemies must, of necessity, be perfidious barbarians. His confident appeal for the assistance of the Most High, and his quotation from the Psalms of David, are characteristic of the semi-religious character which he is accustomed to assume as the head of the Greek Church, and the living embodiment of orthodoxy, and favour the supposition that the proclamation is intended for Russians alone. If it inspire them with reverence, and fill them with awe, it no doubt signifies little to the Emperor that it should fill the rest of Europe with disgust. The Czar speaks to France and England through the pen of Count Nesselrode. He speaks to the Russians in his own person, and employs a language which they are accustomed to respect, even if they do not entirely comprehend.

Yet it is possible that the Emperor of Russia conscientiously and piously believes what he has stated in his declaration of war against the Porte. In such case the world might respect his honesty, but it would only be at the expense of his sanity. If he really believe what he says, his fanaticism is as huge as it is intolerable. His pretensions are all the more dangerous, if based upon a conviction so deep and so erroneous. The greater his sincerity, the more hopeless become all appeals to his reason or his sense of justice. There remains only one argument available with such a mind, and that is the argument of terror. The exercise of a force superior to his own to repel and punish him, is the sole means that can be employed to restrain him within such bounds as may be consistent with the honour and safety of other states. To all else his high pretensions would render him callous.

The energy even of despair itself scarcely equals the energy of an intense and all-engrossing fanaticism. It might be better, therefore, for Europe that the Emperor should be a hypocrite than a bigot. The logic that prevails with the one has no effect upon the other. With the hypocrite it is possible to negotiate, but with the religious fanatic, zealous for the propagation of his faith, it is in vain to parley. Physical coercion is the first of preliminaries in our intercourse with a maniac; and swords and guns are worth far more than conferences of Ambassadors with such a man as the Emperor Nicholas, if he really means what he says.

Public opinion in France, as well as in this country, has been unanimous in the expression of its wonder and indignation at this document. In France the opinions of a press that is not allowed to speak unless with the approbation of the Government and the Censor, have more significance in indicating the intentions of the Executive Power than they can have in this country, where every man may speak his mind. We judge, therefore, from the tone of the French press that the French Emperor has finally resolved to employ all the resources of France in support of the Turkish cause. That he will be supported by Great Britain to the fullest extent there is no reason to doubt; unless, indeed—which is “a consummation most devoutly to be wished”—the Turks should spare them both the trouble, by driving the Russians across the Pruth. Such a victory as that which Omer Pacha has gained at Bucharest, would almost indicate that the Turks will yet be able to fight the battle single-handed.

A TURKISH SCRIBE—CONSTANTINOPLE.

In Turkey, where the art of writing is an accomplishment acquired by comparatively few, that of reading written documents must be almost equally rare. The consequence is, that the professed scribe is a man of considerable importance, always in request, and tolerably well paid. In the highways of business, and, indeed, in all parts of the town, some grave old gentleman, with a particularly long beard, and “spectacles on nose,” may be seen reading the contents of a letter from the country to some anxious friend, or deciphering his “correspondent’s” account to some small merchant of the bazaar; or, mayhap, inditing the fitting reply to some such communication. His writing implements are displayed with great care on the table before him. The narghile and dhbouque are freely plied by himself and his customers, who always form a very picturesque group.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The Court left Paris on Saturday last, and has taken up its residence at Fontainebleau. The previous evening (Friday) the Emperor and Empress were present at the first representation, at the Grand Opera, of the new ballet, “Les Boucaniers,” in which the celebrated danseuse, Mlle. Rosati, made her debut. She was greatly applauded, and merited the applause bestowed. Nothing had been spared to render the *salle* brilliant; but the boxes were occupied entirely by officials—Marshals of France, Ministers of State, Préfets of Police, Director of Beaux Arts, &c. But the official world is but a poor company: always the same faces—everywhere the mark of servitude—the same air of restraint—the same dull physiognomy. It is at these great representations, where the Court assembles solemnly, that one sees how great and how continued is the isolation which exists around it. The *grand monde*—those illustrious by the number of their ancestors, and those illustrious by the éclat of their personal worth—continue to keep aloof from the new régime, and remain in retirement.

This evening is fixed for the opening of the Italian Opera. Will the new director be more fortunate in this attempt at a musical resurrection than was Mr. Lumley? The new director has one chance of safety: he has gained Madame Alboni, who (though married to the Comte P.) has consented to appear on the stage, and lend her incomparable voice. Incomparable is the word; for who can compare the voice of Mlle. Crivelli to that of Madame Alboni, although the former has just been engaged at the Grand Opera, and for a sum which exceeds 100,000 fr. per annum? Perhaps the struggle engaged in between Madame Alboni and Mlle. Crivelli may stimulate public curiosity, and be of service to both theatres, the rival houses of the French and the Italian Opera. It is this evening that the Gymnase will produce the piece of M. Alexandre Dumas, his kept back for more than a year by the Censor, who suspended it. The piece was accused of containing allusions to a situation in which M. Alexandre Dumas and Madame Nesselrode found themselves on the Russian frontier; which Madame Nesselrode was forced to pass by superior orders, and which M. Alexandre Dumas was forbidden to pass by the same authority. This piece was originally to

have borne the title of “Le Dame aux Perles,” but it has been changed for that of “Diane du Lys.” It is expected it will have a great *succès de curiosité*. Mlle. Rachel has arrived at St. Petersburg, and has been received with all the distinction due to her talent. At the time she wrote to her friends here, she had not yet appeared before the public, nor given any representation. Madame George Sand is expected in Paris, where she is to arrive to direct the last representation of her *drame* “Mauprat,” which the Odéon is to represent on the 27th of this month. At the Théâtre Français, two pieces of Alexandre Dumas are preparing—“Regulus,” in one act; and “La Jeunesse de Louis XV.,” in five acts. Theatrical news is about the only news which a Correspondent can gather at this moment, unless he gives news of the theatre of war, where the actors on the scene are the Russians and Turks. How is this drama to end—where they begin fighting, to finish by explaining instead of beginning by an explanation and ending by fighting, if they found it impossible to come to an understanding? The cannon shots which are fired on the banks of the Danube re-echo on the banks of the Seine and the Thames; where they hold every thing in suspense, and retard the preparations for the winter season, of balls, fêtes, and concerts.

Apres of fêtes, a most brilliant one was given a few days ago by the Prince Stouzza, formerly Hospodar of Wallachia, at his charming hotel in the Quartier Beaujon, which M. Visconti, the celebrated architect had built for himself, and which he sold about two years ago.

Several marriages are talked of; and among the rest is that of M. Leopold Lehon to Mlle. de Wagram, who the matrimonial chronicle has successively represented as being about, in the year 1849, to marry Louis Napoleon, President of the Republic, and, in 1852, as the future bride of Prince Napoleon, heir presumptive, in case of the Empress having no children. The *salon* of Madame Lehon is open on Saturdays to a small number of *habitués*—amongst whom may be seen the members of the *corps diplomatique*; they go there on quitting the *Princesse de Lieven*. There is but a little bit of the Avenue of the Champs Elysées which separates the Hôtel of the Rue St. Florentin, inhabited by the *Princesse de Lieven*, from the Hôtel in the *rend point* of the Champs Elysées, built and inhabited by Madame Lehon.

Formerly it was at the Hôtel of the Place St. Georges, inhabited by M. Thiers, that the *corps diplomatique*, in quest of news and eager for gossip, assembled; but tides and destinies change. Now the Hôtel of the Place St. Georges is only visited by the vendors of objects of art, who go to offer to M. Thiers one day what they purchased the day previously. M. Thiers has, alas! the same fate as M. Guizot and M. Molé: these three great statesmen are now merely three relics of a buried *politique*.

The Emperor and Empress are at the Palace of Fontainebleau. M. Kisselef and M. Hubner, the Russian and Austrian Ministers, have received invitations for the fêtes at Fontainebleau. But it is not believed that the former will accept the invitation.

An article in the *Moniteur*, in answer to the manifesto of the Czar, has made no little sensation in the diplomatic world. The official journal gravely convicts the Russian Government of gross “inexactitude”—which seems to be the diplomatic equivalent for falsehood—in the assertions of the manifesto. Every one concludes that the *Moniteur* would not have spoken so freely had the French Emperor not made up his mind to act with firm determination. No orders have yet been given at the Ministry of War, which would seem to indicate an intention of sending troops to Turkey; but every arrangement has been made for transporting 28,000 men, if General Baraguay d’Hilliers should inform the Government that this measure is necessary towards the security of the Ottoman territory. Immense quantities of ammunition are in course of being despatched from Lyons to Toulon. It is expected that the decree for the increase of the *Chasseurs de Vincennes* will appear in a day or two.

Count Eugène Dubois, ex-Director of Public Works in Algeria, has been appointed, by the Emperor, Director General of Railroads—an office newly established, for the better regulation of railways and the prevention of accidents.

The Emperor and Empress came to Paris the other day, and witnessed some experiments with an electro-magnetic machine, invented by Mr. Shepard, of Onslow-square, London, for the extraction of hydrogen gas from water. These experiments, which were also witnessed by Lord Cowley and the Minister of State, were in every instance successful, for on turning a wheel for one minute, sufficient gas was produced to supply seven gas-burners, all burning at the same time, and with a brilliant light. Their Majesties congratulated Mr. Shepard on the success of his discovery.

HOSTILITIES BETWEEN TURKEY AND RUSSIA.

THE WAR IN WALLACHIA.

The following startling despatch, announcing the defeat of the Russians, was received in London on Wednesday morning, where it caused much excitement:—

VIENNA, Wednesday Morning.

The Turks have already passed Bucharest, which is in flames in three places.

The Russians are retreating on Cronstadt.

Fifteen thousand Turks have been despatched to intercept them through the Principality of Servia.

The Austrian Government have ordered an army corps to be immediately concentrated in Croatia.

Cronstadt, in Transylvania, is situated in the direct line of retreat from Bucharest, supposing the Russians to have been cut off from their communications with Moldavia.

So far as the chief incidents of the campaign in Wallachia can be made out, it appears that the Turks crossed the Danube without serious molestation, excepting at two points—Oltienitz and Giurgevo, which are the points directly threatening the Russian head-quarters at Bucharest, and which, therefore, seem to have been more vigorously defended. At Giurgevo the Turks have not yet succeeded in effecting a lodgment, and they remain posted on an island of the Danube opposite that fort. At Oltienitz (a village not set down in the maps, but understood to be only forty miles from Bucharest), they have been twice attacked, and have twice maintained themselves against the Russian forces.

The reports transmitted of a lodgment of the Turks at Oltienitz, of a severe battle fought afterwards, and of the discomfiture and retreat of the Russians, appear to be substantially true, and they point not to a single engagement, variously related, but to a series of desperate encounters on the same spot. On the 3rd inst. the Turks crossed the Danube at Turtukal, and advanced to the Wallachian village of Oltienitz, a short distance from the river, where they entrenched themselves. In this position they were presently assailed by a Russian division, under General Perloff (or Parloff), which they repulsed. It then seems that the Russians, reinforced by the division of General Danneberg, renewed the attack upon Oltienitz on the 4th, and that they were again defeated with still greater loss. It was probably to the latter of these conflicts that the report alludes, which gives fourteen superior officers killed as an item of the casualties—the first encounter having been described as less sanguinary. After this the Russians “retreated upon Bucharest,” as reported; from which place, it is said, Prince Gortschakoff was about to advance with the main body of his army to attack Oltienitz once more. A telegraphic despatch announces that the Turks on the 11th repulsed the renewed Russian attack on their position at Oltienitz.

Great preparations were made by the Russians for the defence of Giurgevo, which is the key to their position in Wallachia. All the Russian pontoons were sent to Giurgevo; and General Simonoff, crossing over with a large force of Russians, attacked the Turkish position upon the island opposite Giurgevo so fiercely, that the Turks were dislodged from the island. The latter, however, renewing the attack with great gallantry, retook the island, and compelled the Russians to retreat across the river. At the date of the latest advices, the Turks still held the island opposite Giurgevo, where they will be ready to fall upon the Russians in the event of any reverses which may compel the retreat of the other division of the Russian army. The main body of the Turks have crossed the Danube at different points, and between 30,000 and 100,000 Turks are believed to be now in Wallachia. Omer Pacha has crossed the Danube in person, and was at the head of

35,000 men, ready to receive Prince Gortschakoff, in the threatened attack upon the Turkish position—an attack in which the Russians appear to have been defeated, with great loss. It is believed that Omer Pacha’s troops will also attempt to cross the Danube above Galatz, in order to get into Moldavia. Ismail Pacha commands 24,000 troops at Kalafat; and, as soon as reinforcements arrive, he will march upon Krajova. The Russians are said to be in full retreat along the road from Bucharest to Kronstadt; and the design of the Turkish General is evidently to take the Russians in the flank and rear, by the advance of troops from Kalafat and Galatz. Supposing the Turks to have reconquered the capital of Wallachia, that extent of country has still to be fought over. But it is a perfect level; has no stream of any breadth, nor any town of magnitude. It is probable, therefore, that retirement across the Pruth, immediately above Galatz, or a retreat upon Jassy, would be the result of a defeat at Bucharest. Reinforcements could not be despatched by way of Odessa without risking a sea-fight; and a rising of the country people in Moldavia would even embarrass the return to Jassy.

The *Moniteur* confirms the intelligence of the advantages obtained by the Turks in the affair of the 4th instant at Oltienitz. The *Moniteur* says—

The Government has received the following details of the rencontre of the 4th between the Turks and Russians at Oltienitz. It is in the triangle formed by the Argis, the Danube, and the village of Oltienitz, that the sanguinary combat of the 4th took place. The Turks were only 9000 strong; they occupied the quarantine building situated in the plain near the Danube and the village. This building and an old redoubt were fortified with materials brought from Turtukal. The Turks made use of the batteries of that fortress with great success: they threw across the Danube, which is here about 260 toises in width, shot and shells, which reached the Russians at the foot of the village situated on an elevation. General Dannenberg, who directed the operations, was at a short distance from the village with his staff. The loss of the Russians is estimated at 1200 men killed or wounded. Almost all the *chefs de bataillon* were wounded, as well as several colonels. The great majority of the wounds were made with conical balls. Prince Gortschakoff has left for Oltienitz. It is intended to attack the Turks with 24,000 men.

The *Silke* gives the following additional particulars:—

On the 2nd and 3rd inst. the Russian General Pauloff endeavoured in vain to prevent the Turks from establishing themselves in advance of Oltienitz, on the Wallachian side of the Danube. The Ottomans maintained their position and caused the Russians a loss of 600 men, among whom are eighteen officers. The position of Oltienitz, situated about thirty-eight miles from Bucharest, which is the basis of their operations in Wallachia, appeared so important to the Russian Generals that they resolved to make a fresh effort to dislodge the Turks from it. The attack was recommenced on the 4th, and continued through part of the 5th. The Russians have had 1200 killed or wounded, and it is stated as certain that the Ottoman *classeurs*, armed with the *Vincennes* carbines, made terrible havoc in the ranks of the officers. Almost all the commanders of corps have fallen. From the summons made to Prince Gortschakoff by Omer Pacha to deliver up all the fortified places into the hands of the Turks, and to evacuate the Principalities as promptly as possible, there is reason to infer that the troops of the Sultan have assumed a real attitude of superiority.

The *Wanderer*, of Vienna, has the following, dated the 10th inst.:—

It was on the 2nd that the Turks concentrated themselves between Tschitschahka and Turtukal, to the number of 14,000 men, without reckoning the reserve. They were concealed by the wood. In the night of the 3rd the passage of the river was attempted near Oltienitz, and effected by force. As soon as 2000 men had been landed, the boats returned to fetch others. The advanced posts of the Russians were at Oltienitz, and the reserve within gun-shot of the place. The Russian forces amounted to 6000 men. The combat began by break of day, and great bravery was exhibited on both sides. The cannonade lasted eighteen hours. The Russians received reinforcements from Kanizurva. The struggle terminated at noon by the retreat of the Turks, but was renewed in the evening. The Russians retired on Oltienitz, where they had an entrenched position, whilst the Turks remained on the banks of the Danube, and threw up entrenchments. On the following day the report of cannon was again heard. The farms in the neighbourhood of Oltienitz fell a prey to the flames, but the town itself did not suffer. The combat was most sanguinary, and the loss on both sides was severe. The Russians made every effort in their power to resist the superior forces of the enemy; but the Turks displayed the most extraordinary bravery, and gave proofs of their superiority. When the affair came to the bayonet, small detachments of Turks were up to their waists in the water, but would not give way. On the 5th, the Turks maintained themselves on the Wallachian side, and the Russians retired towards the position of their reserve at Oltienitz. On the 2nd, the Turks concentrated themselves at Silistria, and advanced as far as Kalaradsche.

A Vienna despatch of the 10th says:—

The Turkish forces at Oltienitz consist of 17,000 regular infantry, 3000 Bashi Bozouks, and 4000 artillerymen, commanded by General Prim. Report says that Klappa will supersede him.

The Russians have concentrated 35,000 men at Budeschti (between Bucharest and Oltienitz), and established head-quarters there.

THE WAR IN ASIA.

Letters from Constantinople of the 31st mention that intelligence received from Asia Minor announced the capture, by the Turkish troops, of five forts on the frontiers of Georgia. The first of these forts is called Cartom, and was taken by the Kurds; the second, Futile, by the contingent from Damascus; the third, Hermini; the fourth, Istrat; and the fifth, Kuchat, were captured by the Bashi-Bozouks, or irregular troops. The intelligence was believed to be correct in Constantinople.

A private letter from Trebizonde, of the 22nd ult., states that Abdi Pacha marched from Erzeroum, through Kars, on the 12th October, at the head of 12,000 regular troops. Ten thousand regulars had arrived at his head-quarters from Kurdistan and Diarb-kir. Fifteen thousand *redits* are likewise encamped in the neighbourhood of Kars. The Government has called the Bashi-Bozouks into active service. They are irregular volunteers, armed with muskets without bayonets, with pistols, and a poignard with a broad blade. There are nearly 30,000 of them between Batoum and Kars. A Russian corps of 30,000 men had been encamped for the previous twenty days at the foot of the mountain which commands Alexandropol, distance twelve hours’ march from Kars on the Georgian territory. Another corps of 15,000 men is encamped in the neighbourhood of Akhalzikh, which is intended to take possession of Batoum by the mountain, which command it, whilst it is to be bombarded on the sea side by ships of war: 1500 riflemen, armed like the *Chasseurs de Vincennes*, were landed at Trebizonde, on the 21st, from Turkish ships, together with 6000 infantry. These troops are well armed and equipped. Twenty-two steam-boats were expected with additional troops for Erzeroum and Kars. It was expected that the Turkish Government would despatch 5000 good troops from Constantinople to Batoum the following week. This was absolutely necessary, for Batoum was defended by only 2000 regular troops and 6000 Bashi-Bozouks, who could not resist the Russian troops preparing to attack it.

Another letter from Trebizonde announces that the Russian fortress of Dariel, situated in Circassia, on the right bank of the Terek, between Mosdok and Tiflis, was surrounded by the insurgent Ossetes and by a large force of Circassians, and that it was on the point of falling into their power. The same letter announces that the authentic details had been received of the affair which took place some time back, when 20,000 Russians, lately arrived in the country, were overpowered by Schamy’s troops, and all that were not killed were made prisoners, and are now at Ardianskai, in Circassia.

Private letters from Erzeroum, of the 25th ult., announce that the Turks had concluded an alliance offensive and defensive with Schamy, and with the Mussulman tribes of Mingrelia, Imeritia, Gouriel, and the other independent tribes of that part of Asia. Those countries can furnish 80,000 warriors, well practiced in mountain warfare.

The garrison of Sebastopol had marched against the Caucasians. The garrison was replaced by 15,000 men from the camp of Odessa, which were replaced by troops from Vicesenk.

The combined Turkish and Egyptian squadron operating on the Asiatic coast on the Black Sea has driven a flotilla of the Russian gun-boats into Sebastopol.

The commercial steam communication between Odessa and Galatz is broken off. The Russians appear to have resolved that the Sulina mouth of the Danube shall silt up, as they have brought the dredging-machine away.

Advices from Belgrade announce that the Austrian corps of observation on the frontiers of Servia consists of 40,000 men, and that the Prince of Servia has sent one of his aides-de-camp to Constantinople, to give information respecting the situation of that province, and to concert measures for its defence, in the event of an attack on Turkey in that direction.

The arrival at Shiraz of the deputation from Afghanistan, which came to induce the Shah of Persia to declare against Russia, has produced a powerful sensation at the Persian Court. The Shah did all in

his power to delay the decision, and to suppress an anti-Russian movement.

A letter from Constantinople of the 31st ult. says:—

I am just in time to give you the important intelligence that the Sultan in his speech, while at the Grand Council of Justice to-day, declared that in the spring he will join the army, and personally conduct military operations against Russia. The greatest enthusiasm reigned in the assembly, which was composed of all the Pachas, civil and military, and most of the influential members of the Ulema. A proclamation will be published containing the above important declaration. All attempts to bring about peace are now useless. The Sultan, who so far has been weak and undecided in his policy, has now crossed over to the war party, and placed himself forward as its leader. The people here are frantic in their joy, and declare that they will all follow the Sultan. His Majesty, by a few words, has made himself more popular than the greatest Sovereign who ever reigned over this people. Hostilities have commenced both in Roumelia and Anatolia. Letters from Varna state that hostilities had occurred along the whole line of the Danube, and that the steamer running between Ismail and Odessa was fired at by the Turkish fortress of Isakiehl, and her commander and fourteen men were killed, and one passenger and several seamen wounded. The celebrated Tossoun Pacha, who behaved with such daring courage during the last war with Russia, has been named General of Division, and will command the army of Sophia. The Porte has decided to form a foreign legion, to be employed in Asia. About forty Poles have already entered the service; but the majority here prefer to wait for a new turn of events, whereby they can serve their own country.

RUSSIA.

The *Journal of St. Petersburg* contains the following official declaration:—"No embargo will be put on Turkish ships in Russian ports until the 22nd of November; but after that date they will be declared fair prizes, if even their cargoes be not wholly Turkish property. Neutral flags shall enjoy perfect liberty throughout the continuation of hostilities."

An English gentleman, holding a situation in the Russian dockyard at Cronstadt, who has arrived at Portsmouth, brings word that the whole of the British artisans employed in that and other Governmental establishments in Russia, of whom there are a large number, have been discharged. This step is supposed to have been taken in reference to the present relations between the Governments of the two countries.

A letter from Odessa of the 31st October, says, that from the 10th to that date 400 vessels had entered that port, and that double the number were expected. They were all taking in cargoes of corn, and the greatest activity prevailed. Great activity was also visible in the other Russian ports of the Black Sea and of the Sea of Azoff in the shipping of grain. The weather was magnificent, and most favourable to the exportation. The deposits of grain at Odessa were enormous—sufficient to fill all the vessels announced. The carters were earning 14s. a day per cart and pair of oxen.

The following official circular has been sent by the Count de Nesselrode to the representatives of Russia at the European Courts, in order to make known the disposition of the Emperor after the communication of the declaration of war by Turkey. It will be seen that the circular hints, on the part of the Emperor of Russia, that the intervention of England and France in the quarrel will have the effect of changing a local war into a general war:—

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 19.

Monsieur le —. The efforts which we have not ceased to make for the last eight months for the arrangement of *l'aimable* of our differences with the Ottoman Porte, have unfortunately been without effect to the present day. Nay, more, the situation seems to become more aggravated each day. Whilst the Emperor offered, during his interview with his intimate friend and ally, the Emperor Francis Joseph, fresh facilities to the Austrian Cabinet to explain the misunderstanding which attaches to the motives stated by us for rejecting the modifications which the Porte desired to introduce in the note drawn up at Vienna, the Porte yielding, notwithstanding the counsels of the European Representatives at Constantinople, to the warlike ideas and the fanaticism of the Mussulmans, has, as you will have learned, formally declared war against us. That rash step has, however, in no wise changed the pacific disposition of the Emperor. We still do not abandon, on that account, the resolutions announced from the beginning in our circular of the 20th of June. At that period his Imperial Majesty declared that, in occupying provisionally the Principalities as a material security for the satisfaction he demands, he was unwilling to carry any further the measures of coercion, but rather to avoid an offensive war, so long as his dignity and his interests permitted him to do so. At the present moment, and notwithstanding the fresh provocation offered to him, the intentions of my august master remain the same. In possession of the material pledge which the occupation of the Principalities gives us, though still ready, in fulfilment of our promise, to evacuate them the moment that we obtain satisfaction, we shall content ourselves with maintaining our position there, remaining on the defensive so long as we are not forced to abandon the limits within which we desire to confine our action. We will await the attack of the Turks without taking the initiative of hostilities. It will then entirely depend on other Powers not to widen the limits of the war, if the Turks persist in waging it against us, and not to give to it any other character than that which we mean to leave to it. That situation of expectancy does not place any obstacle to the carrying on of negotiations. After the declaration of war it is not to Russia that it belongs to seek for new expedients, nor to take the initiative in overtures of conciliation. But if, when better enlightened as to its interests, the Porte will manifest a disposition to propose or to receive similar overtures, it is not the Emperor who will place any obstacles to their being taken into consideration. Such, Monsieur, is all that for the moment, it is permitted to me to inform you of, in the uncertainty we are as to whether the Ottoman Porte will give immediate effect to the warlike project it has just adopted. Inform the Cabinet to which you are accredited of our eventual intentions. They furnish an additional proof of the desire of our august master to limit as much as possible the circle of hostilities, if they should unhappily take place, and to spare the consequences of them to the rest of Europe.

Receive, &c., NESSELRODE.

It is rumoured in Paris that M. Kisseleff, in presenting this note to the French Government, verbally informed M. Drouin de Lhuys, in the name of the Czar, that if a single English or French ship should pass into the Black Sea he should consider it as a declaration of war.

SPAIN.

Marshal Narvaez has arrived in Madrid from Paris. He maintained the strictest reserve on his political views. On presenting his homage to the Queen, the Marshal thanked her Majesty for her kindness in allowing him to return to Spain for the benefit of his health. The Queen is said to have replied to him:—

I perceive with pleasure that your health is good. I thought you were ill. Had I known that you enjoyed such good health I would have insisted on your going to Vienna.

The Marshal immediately took leave of her Majesty, and left on the 9th for Aranjuez.

La Nación, of the 3rd of November, has the following:—

In the *Epoca* is the following paragraph:—"The Spanish correspondence published by the English press, states that the present Minister of Finance has paid the Duke de la Victoria, in paper money, the 25,000 dollars which were due to him for his allowance (sueldo) as Regent of the Kingdom, without any application whatever from General Espartero." With reference to the preceding article we have to state that, at a Cabinet Council presided over by her Majesty the Queen, it was, in fact, unanimously resolved, without any application, directly or indirectly from the illustrious Pacificator of Spain, that he should be paid the arrears which were due to him as Regent of the Kingdom; but the Duke de la Victoria, although he appreciated this mark of the value attached to his services, positively declined to accept any sum whatever: because neither now, nor at any period of his life, has he coveted riches; and also because, sacred as are his claims upon the State, he could not consent to deprive it of resources of which it stands so much in need in the present straitened condition of the Treasury.

EGYPT.

Abbas Pacha returned to Cairo on the 31st of October, from his journey to the coast of the Red Sea, after an absence of about six weeks.

The present condition and prospects of Egypt are far from satisfactory. The late extraordinary rise of the Nile has damaged a large portion of the Indian corn crops, on which the natives depend for their sustenance at this season of the year. Prices of all articles are exceedingly high; and the constant seizure of men for the army depopulates the towns and villages, not only of those who are actually taken, but also of those who abandon their homes and conceal themselves, in order to escape being made into soldiers; so that the cultivation of the land is not attended to, and the next year's crops will be short.

Abbas Pacha has given the appointments of Minister of War and Commander-in-Chief of the army, to his son, El-Hamce Bey, who is only about sixteen years of age, who will no doubt draw the large salaries attached to his post, but can otherwise be of but little use.

The Viceroy is preparing about 15,000 troops to send to the Sultan, besides the 18,000 sent some time ago, to assist in fighting against the Russians, and he has ordered his steamers to come down from Constantinople to convey them. If his Highness succeeds besides, in inducing the Bedouins to send some irregular cavalry towards the Black Sea, the Sultan will have every reason to congratulate himself on having so devoted a tributary subject as Abbas Pacha.

Nearly fifty consecutive miles of railway, from Alexandria, are now in

working condition; and, were it not for the troubles of the times, the works would get on much more rapidly.

SOUTH AMERICA.

By the *Severn* we have dates from Buenos Ayres, October 2nd; Monte Video, 5th; Rio Janeiro, 15th. No events of importance had transpired either in the River Plate or in the Brazils. The internal condition of Buenos Ayres was rapidly improving, and a number of industrial enterprises were on the *tapis*. This packet brings a memorandum and protest from the Government of Buenos Ayres addressed to all the European Powers against the treaty recently established for a Protectorate of the island of Martin Garcia.

INDIA.

Troops are being moved towards the north-western frontier with all despatch, in consequence of a rumour that the King of Persia is assembling a large army in the valley of Sultanieh in order to co-operate with Russia against the Turks. Reports have also reached Calcutta that an alliance has been concluded between Dost Mahomed, the ruler of Cabul, and the Emperor of Russia. There are said to be Russian emissaries in Afghanistan; and this rumour, together with the assassination of Col. Mackeson, a false alarm of a combined Afghan attack on Peshawur, and the forced march of additional troops towards that part, occasioned a great deal of excitement on the frontier, and not a little Russophobia. It is stated that the presence of the Governor-General on the frontier has become a State necessity, and that he has consequently postponed his trip to Burmah. The rumours of intrigues between Cabul and St. Petersburg are, however, contradicted by intelligence which reaches us by way of Vienna, and which states that a deputation from Afghanistan has appeared at Teheran, and invited Persia, in case of war between Russia and Turkey, to espouse the cause of the latter. It is added, that the invitation was couched in language which made it very like an order.

Her Majesty's 8th (the King's) regiment, now stationed at Deesa, is ordered to march to Agra, there to fill the vacancy occasioned by one of her Majesty's regiments which has been ordered to the Punjab.

The following circumstances connected with the assassination of Col. Mackeson by a Mussulman fanatic, will be read with melancholy interest:—

The north-west has recently been startled by one of those great crimes which, in their character and circumstances, are almost peculiar to the East. Colonel Mackeson, the Commissioner of Peshawur, has been assassinated by a Mussulman of the Valley of Swat; instigated partly by the religious fanaticism which burns so fiercely in all those mountain clans, and partly by a wild idea, that the death of his victim would be the salvation of his native country. The man—a stalwart Mussulman, unusually fair, and with a face of singular determination—had heard that in the cold weather "twelve guns" (the new mountain train) were to be despatched into the valley. In the mind of an Oriental, everything depends upon the chief, and he appears immediately to have formed the design of murdering the "Burra Sahib," his deputy, and his assistant, and thus prevent the despatch of the dreaded artillery. With this view, he left Jellalabad, reached Peshawur, and for three days mixed with the crowd in the Commissioner's office, in order to observe the localities, watch the disposition of the guard, and ascertain the habits of his victim. On the evening of the third day, the 10th, the Commissioner had dismissed his attendants, and was reading a letter in the verandah. The assassin took advantage of the opportunity. The Colonel's eyes were bent upon the paper, and the murderer drew an enormous knife from his waist cloth, in a single spring stood by the side of his victim, and plunged the weapon into his breast. The knife had been sharpened like a razor; and the Commissioner, in an instinctive effort to wrest it from his chest, mangled his right hand to a degree which rendered him, though a singularly powerful man, utterly unable to cope with his antagonist. He would have been slain upon the spot but for the exertions of an old Ressaldar, who succeeded in keeping off the assassin until secured by the sepoy. The wound bled profusely, and it was found impossible for some time to ascertain the extent of the injury. On the following night the surgeons pronounced the case hopeless; but towards morning the unfortunate officer rallied, and some faint hopes of his life were again entertained. They were, however, illusory. The right lung had been injured, he drew breath with difficulty and at long intervals, and at ten o'clock on the 14th instant he expired. Up to the last moment his mind was as unclouded as in perfect health; and the calm firmness with which he met his fate appears to have deeply impressed those who stood around. Twelve hours before he expired he was warned that human aid was in vain, and calmly and quietly gave instructions for drawing up his will; but his mind was full of the Kohat Pass, to which he had organised an expedition, and of which he spoke frequently and with earnestness.

A letter from Peshawur, dated October 2, says—

Considerable excitement has been felt here ever since the death of Colonel Mackeson. The assassin was kept in close confinement till yesterday morning, when he was hanged. The gallows was erected on a hill in front of the city, just opposite the late Commissioner's house. A troop of horse artillery was out, the guns unlimbered and ready for action, with the muzzles pointing along the road towards the city. The artillery were supported by irregular cavalry, and two regiments of infantry—one European, and the other native. There was a large crowd collected to witness the execution, but nothing occurred to disturb the peace. After the body had been hanging a short time, it was cut down and burnt. This was done to prevent the Mussulmans in the city and neighbourhood from burying it with honour, and erecting a tomb over the mortal remains of a canonised murderer, though he would have been by no means the first shedder of innocent blood thus honoured. The city is overlooked by a fort, where the Government keep all their ordnance stores, heavy siege trains, &c. It is a rickety old place, and they say a salute could not be fired from the walls without bringing them down. However, we have put two 24-pounders into position on one of the bastions nearest the city, loaded with grape, and their muzzles pointing towards the crowded streets. The inhabitants did not like the look of them at all at first, though they have got a little better accustomed to them now; but there they are, ready to pour death and destruction into the city the moment any insurrectionary movement takes place. The garrison permanently located here is far too small. By returns recently called for, it seems that the average run of duty for the troops here is two nights in bed to five on duty. The Commander-in-Chief will not apply for more troops, lest he should embarrass the Government while military operations are being carried on in Burmah. The cold weather is setting in; fever still very prevalent, and one native regiment completely *hors de combat* from it.

Major Herbert Edwards is spoken of in India as the most likely successor to Colonel Mackeson.

Mr. Thomason, Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces, died at Bareilly on the 27th of September. He was appointed to the government of the Agra Presidency by Lord Ellenborough, and the selection was the happiest: which Lord Ellenborough ever made, remarkable as he was above all other Governors-General for selecting the best men for every vacancy, disregarding all rules of seniority and precedent. Mr. Thomason did for the north-west provinces almost as much as Peter the Great did for Russia; he made it to be known as "the model Presidency," in the extension to the masses of the benefit of vernacular education, in the establishment of engineering and other colleges for affording a professional education to natives of the middle and higher classes, and in the acceleration of mails and the construction of works of public utility, on a scale commensurate to the wants of the country. The Agra Presidency has, for the last ten years, been "first" in the race of progress, and the other presidencies "nowhere." Mr. Thomason's death is felt as a calamity throughout the great province he had so long governed; his life appears to have been shortened by his over-devotion to the public service, which was such that he despatched official business to the day of his death, dying with "official packets and papers about him, and almost with the pen in his hand."

Lord Dalhousie has planned, and is about to carry out, a magnificent military road, between Calcutta and Prome, which is to be so far ready as to be used by troops by the end of next rains. The whole distance thus traversed will be from Calcutta to the Aeng Pass, 570 miles; and from the Pass onward to Prome, 120 miles: total, 690 miles. The line selected is from Calcutta to Dacca, through Chittagong, thence to turn south to Ramoo, and thence through Mungdoo to the Aeng Pass. The road will traverse and open out a communication from Calcutta through the whole of Arracan to the south-eastern coast. From the Pass to Prome there are few, if any, difficulties in the way of engineering; and the distance to be traversed is only 120 miles. Should his Lordship remain in India long enough to complete this stupendous undertaking, it will cause his name to be long remembered.

CHINA.

It is still reported that Peking has been taken, but no positive news has been received from the capital since the arrival at Peking of Tae-ping-wang's troops. It is said that the Emperor has at length accepted the assistance of the Tartar chiefs north of the wall. This may simply increase his present difficulty, for it is probable that the Tartars would not rest content with rendering assistance. We may expect soon to hear that the capital has fallen.

Shanghai has fallen into the hands of some men belonging to the Triad Society, but who have no connection with the insurgents under Tae-ping-wang. The city was captured on the morning of the 7th September, by a low band of Kwantung and Fokien men of the Triad Society, mixed with Singapore men, and with some of the low class of Shanghai. The place was taken by surprise, with little resistance—the Imperial troops,

chiefly Triad men, deserting their authorities. The second magistrate was killed, and the prisons were thrown open. Two other Mandarins escaped, and the Taoutai, Samqua, the well-known Hong-merchant at Canton, deserted by his guards, presented himself unprotected in his official robes and honours to the multitude, who being at the moment chiefly Canton men, his life was spared, and he ultimately made his escape, and is now under the protection of the American Minister. There had been little loss of life, and the main object of the insurgents was plunder of the public money and demolition of the public offices.

The insurgents were collecting a force wherewith to attack Soochow. The surrounding country was in a state of confusion, the villagers fighting with these piratical hordes, who levied forced contributions. There was a strong impression that the Imperialists would send a force to drive away this mob, and the thirty-two armed junks and boats, with about 2000 men, which passed through the harbour on the 13th instant, for Shanghai, may arrive at an opportune moment. The foreign settlement was unmolested, but there was a good naval force at Shanghai, and great vigilance was kept up on shore. At first there were some signs of danger to foreigners, but a volunteer corps of British merchants, aided by some blue-jackets from the *Hermes* and *Salamander*, kept the victors in awe. The Custom-house was destroyed, and immediately the traders in port made haste to depart without paying port duties. But the American and English Consuls stopped the attempt at levying, and constituted themselves provisional Custom-house authorities. The Yankees grumbled, but were compelled to pay. The question of the payment of duties was still being agitated by the foreign Consuls and community.

The Chinese authorities at Shanghai were still maintaining a species of offensive operations on the Yang-tse-kiang, and had appointed an Englishman to the commodoreship of the various European modelled vessels recently purchased into the service of the Emperor.

At Ningpo all was quiet at latest advices. Her Majesty's sloop *Rapid* sailed hence for Foo-chow-foo on the 1st. On the 10th, a stray shot from a war junk took off the arm of the carpenter of Her Majesty's brig *Rapid*, or shattered it so as to require amputation.

We hear from Foo-chow-foo, to the 16th Sept., that the country around was in a very unsettled state. The American house, lately gone there, had succeeded in loading and despatching three vessels with teas thence—the *Alma* and *Olya*, *Tsar*, and *Old Hickory*; destination kept secret, but probably for the colonies and America.

The news from Amoy is brought up to the 1st September. The long-threatened attack by the Imperialists commenced on the 25th Aug., but the rebels were still in possession of the town when the clipper schooner *Maceppa* left on the 2nd.

On the 12th August, the rebels, with an overwhelming force, attacked a body of the Government troops, and completely routed them, burning also a village, and returning with such spoil as they could lay their hands on—tents, baggage, and wreck of houses. The wind and tide prevented the naval force from assisting the Imperialist soldiers.

Subsequently, the Imperialists, though far superior in numbers to the rebels, performed no exploit of consequence. Several attacks (so called) had been made by the fleet upon the forts, but care was taken to anchor beyond gun-shot, so that no injury could possibly be done on either side; and the only accident which happened was from the bursting of a gun on board a junk, by which eleven men were killed or wounded. In one instance, however, several of the Imperialist vessels penetrated into the inner harbour; and, had they been properly supported, must have captured the whole rebel fleet; but their leader, a man evidently of unusual energy, finding himself deserted by his consorts, retired. The rebels, however, dread a second attack, their numbers being so small in comparison with their opponents; and it seems more than probable they will have shortly to retire from the town, from lack of provisions, and in consequence of quarrels among themselves, rather than from dread of the Imperialists, who, independent of their fleet, muster as many as 10,000 men encamped to the north and east of the town.

Further advices are looked for with some anxiety. The European community were sanguine in the hope that the rebels would maintain possession of the town. If retaken by the Imperialists, it could only be held by them for a short time ere it must again fall into the hands of the new Government, in the southward progress of its conquering army.

At Canton there was a lamentable stagnation of trade. Intelligence had reached Canton that a detachment from the Nankin army had reached the borders of Kwang-si, at the point where the Pearl River enters from the Kwang tung Province, and that the patriots only awaited news of the fall of Peking to advance towards Canton. Hard fighting is looked for about the Meiling Pass, to which place the Viceroy Yeh has been for some time sending troops.

The United States' vessels comprising the Japan expedition remained in the Chinese Seas—the *Susquehanna* and *Mississippi* steamers at Whampoa; the sloop *Saratoga* at Canton; and the *Powhattan* steamer, the *Caprice*, *Macedonian*, and *Vandalia*, at Cum-sing-moon.

GUERRILLA WAR IN BURMAH.

The intelligence brought by the last Overland Mail is that our troops in Pegu are engaged in a formidable guerilla warfare with hordes of robbers and pirates, and that along the whole of the eastern bank of the Irawaddy, the country is in the hands of robber chieftains. Our troops in Burmah are in a state of siege, and, with the single exception of Bassein, the whole of our new provinces are in possession of the enemy. The hostile Burmese have two principal chiefs: the first is the famous Meeah Toon, who is in command of 5000 men; the second, Moung Goung Gye, or Moung Roung Gee, has 6500 followers under him; and these two chiefs are said to be with these 11,000 followers, within four days' march of Rangoon, while to defend that extensive position we have only 800 fighting men available.

The banditti, who are ravaging our new province of Pegu, have adopted a line of tactics that seems only too well suited to baffle the vigilance of our garrisons. Keeping clear altogether of the frontier posts, these miscreants make the river the basis of their operations. A fleet of war boats, varying in number from fifteen to forty, each manned by a score or two of armed marauders, dart down the Irawaddy on some doomed village, and burn, destroy, and plunder all they find—the peasants, not the troops, being the objects of attack. Even where a detachment of two or three hundred sepoys may chance to be posted in the place, such is the suddenness of the assault, and the terror and confusion of the villagers that the troops can generally do little more than hold their own. If, on the other hand, any serious resistance is found practicable, the river pirates retreat to their boats, which are propelled, by means of double banks of oars, at the rate of some ten miles an hour. So serious have these depredations become, that the country along the eastern bank of the Irawaddy is, as we have stated, entirely in the hands of the robber chiefs; while, with the exception of Prome and Shweydong, where we have strong posts, every town from Henzada to Munday has been burnt down, and the inhabitants have fled to the interior.

That the King of Ava is implicated in these disturbances, and that the remedy is to be sought in another Burmese war, was the general opinion in India. The robbers systematically represent themselves as the agents of that potentate. They take every opportunity of declaring that the English will, as in 1825, speedily withdraw from the country; and that the King will then visit with condign punishment all those inhabitants of Pegu who shall have transferred their allegiance to us; and, in order to hasten our retirement, Meeah Toon has proclaimed that he will reduce the province to a desert. The inhabitants, who have as yet had no experience of the benefit which they might derive from British rule, naturally detest the strangers, to whom the Dacoits triumphantly point as the real authors of the miseries inflicted upon the country. The Court of Ava is divided: the King at once hates and fears the British power, and professes to be in favour of peace; while his younger brother is the recognised leader of the warlike faction.

An effective flotilla of gun-boats on the Irawaddy is greatly needed. The present mail records an instance in which a single man-of-war's boat, armed with a 9-pounder, proved more than a match for a whole fleet of these pirates. They had resolved to attack a station where the garrison amounted to only 90 sepoys, who would have had enough to do to hold their own position, without protecting the villagers. Fortunately, however, a man-of-war's boat was at hand; and so well was her gun served, that one after another of the piratical craft sunk under her fire; and on the following day, the river was covered with the dead bodies of the assailants. Until a proper force of gun-boats is forthcoming to guard the Irawaddy, it would be premature to infer—from the success of these piratical attacks—that the Governor-General erred in his estimate of the strength of the frontier, and that it cannot be effectually protected without the reduction of Burmah Proper.

Lord Dalhousie, in his minutes on the subject, laid great stress on the defensibility of the Pegu frontier, and on the ease with which, by means of a river blockade, the King of Ava might be starved into submission, whenever he should prove contumacious. But it is now stated that to starve the capital by means of a blockade on the Irawaddy is utterly impossible, for the whole supplies required in Burmah Proper are



KYOOK PHYOO, ARRACAN—EMBARKATION OF THE ARRACAN BATTALION FOR RANGOON, IN THE STEAM-FRIGATES "ZENOBIA" AND "MOZUFFER."

brought from the northern provinces. It is even asserted that a river blockade has been actually set up against ourselves, and that no provisions were allowed to go down the Irawaddy from above Meaday.

Lord Dalhousie has not yet taken his departure for Rangoon, being detained at Calcutta by the very unsettled state of the north-west frontier. In the meantime a great portion of the 2nd Bengal Fusiliers (Europeans) have been despatched from Fort William to Rangoon; and, as portions of her Majesty's 52nd Light Infantry and 81st Regiment have arrived at Calcutta, the remainder of the 52nd Fusiliers is, no doubt, ere now, on its way to Rangoon. The whole of Pegu is, for the future, to constitute one military division, which Sir John Cheape has been nominated to command. When the latest news left Rangoon, an attack from Meeah Toon's followers was expected at Henzada, and a reinforcement of troops had been sent from Rangoon to that station.

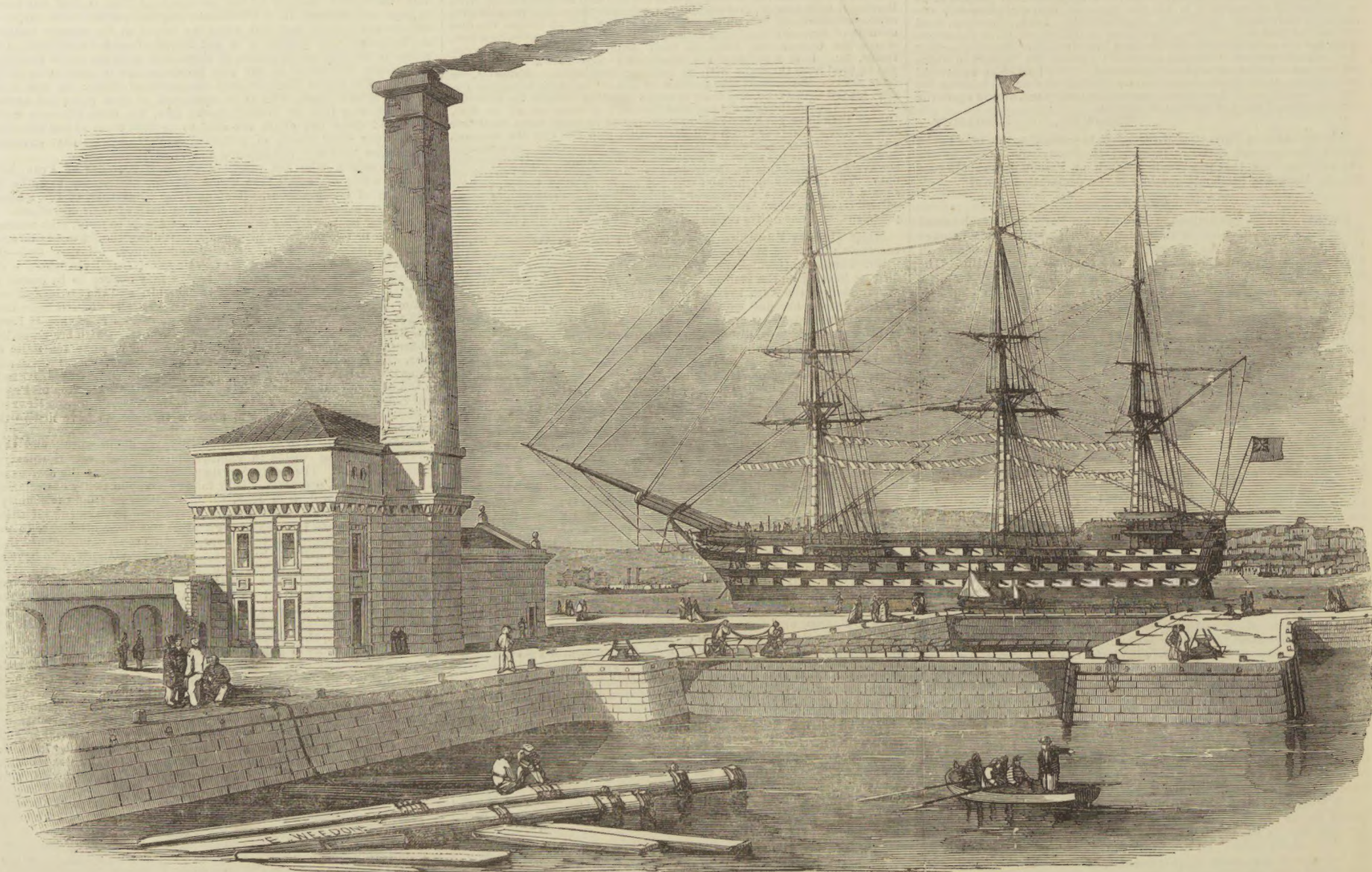
We are indebted to a Correspondent, whose letter is dated "Kyook

Phyoo, Arracan, Aug. 3, 1853," for an illustration of the embarkation, at Kyook Phyoo, of the Arracan battalion in the steam-frigates *Zenobia* and *Mozuffer*, for Rangoon. It appears that half of the battalion proceeded in the latter vessel, a noble ship of 1400 tons, 500-horse power, and which, a few days after, met with a sad disaster, having struck on a shoal at the entrance of the Rangoon river, and become a total wreck. Assistance was near at hand at the time, and every soul on board saved; but the troops lost the whole of their arms, equipments, &c., and the officers every single thing they had. The *Mozuffer* was a heavily-armed frigate, with a crew of 300 picked British tars; and her loss will not easily be supplied to the Government.

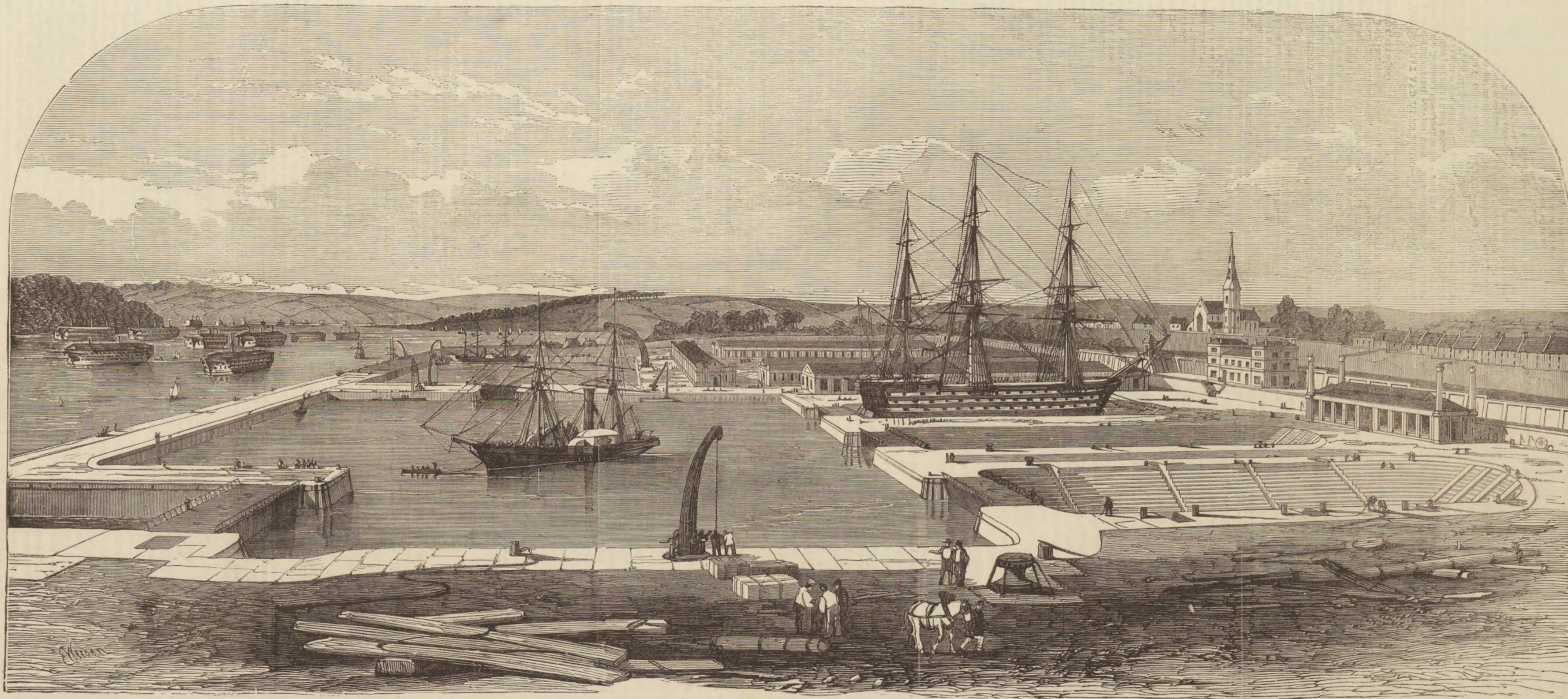
In the harbour are seen the gun-boats and "flats" attached to the Arracan station for the transport of the troops wherever their services may be required, and upon which the men are embarking for the frigates, the last of which is the ill-fated *Mozuffer*. On the right fore-

ground are seen some men of the 68th Bengal Native Infantry, the only corps of the line now in Arracan.

Kyook Phyoo is a pretty place; its climate milder than in Bengal, though not so healthy for the sepoys as the north-western provinces. The officers' houses are all situated on the beach, and open to the sea; and the sea-bathing is a luxury which is duly appreciated, for this is the only station in the Bengal Presidency where it can be enjoyed. Major Maling commands the 68th; and in the Arracan province much is owing to Major Maling for his able disposition of the troops under his command during the progress of the Burmese war; all the posts and passes having been most effectually guarded, and the most judicious arrangements made to repel any encroachment on the part of the Burmese. Two hundred men of the Arracan battalion are still in the Aeng Pass, garrisoning the fortified position at Naragan, which was so gallantly captured by a handful of these brave fellows last cold season.



ENTRY DOCK AND PUMP-HOUSE, KEYHAM STEAM-YARD.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



HER MAJESTY'S NEW STEAM-YARD, AT KEYHAM.

KEYHAM Steam-yard—a portion of which was brought into service about six weeks since, on docking her Majesty's ship *Queen*, of 110 guns—lies about half a mile north of Devonport, and nearly opposite to Thanks, the seat of Lord Graves.

The growing wants of the Navy, and the vast importance of possessing dry docks of superior capacity to those in her Majesty's Dockyard, Devonport, so that ships of every class could be docked irrespective of tides, induced the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, at whose head was Lord Haddington, to construct a dockyard at Keyham Point, of such calibre as to allow from twelve to fourteen of the largest steam-ships to be docked or repaired at one time. This decision was arrived at in 1844, after much deliberation. The late Colonel Brandreth, R.E., who was the Director of Works at that period, and a powerful advocate for the scheme, immediately formed a staff of officers for putting their Lordships' views into operation. It was not until careful survey on both sides of the River Tamar had been made, that the site at Keyham, containing an area of 73 acres, was decided on. Its contiguity to the Gun-wharf and Dock-yard was considered a strong argument in favour of this selection. Though opinion varied as to the most eligible spot for this magnificent scheme; nevertheless, it was found on the whole, that Keyham offered superior advantages to all others. Accordingly, plans were made out, and a contract entered into with Messrs. George Baker and Son, of Standgate-wharf, London, on the 31st August, 1844; who first formed an extensive cofferdam, 1600 feet long by 26 feet wide, in a line running north and south—the south end resting on a private wharf, in Moon-cove, and the north forming a junction with the pier of the present Government Powder-magazine Basin: thus including, between the foreshore and high water mark, nearly fifty acres of mud, &c.

The width of the cofferdam afforded facilities to the contractor for unloading materials; and in fact it was, for several years, made use of as a wharf. The south end, from the great depth of mud above the rock on which all the masonry is founded, required baulks of fir timber, of unusual length and scantling—these varied from forty-five to sixty-six feet in length, and were often driven by Nasmyth's steam pile-driving machine in from three to four minutes.

The dam being completed, and the water excluded from the river, the excavations were followed up with promptitude. A steam-engine, of 40-horse power, was constantly at work, night and day, to keep the foundations clear of water. Several miles of rails were laid down; travellers and cranes erected, for the better transit of stones and materials; two additional steam-engines were put up for grinding mortar, hauling silt out of the foundations, &c.; and in the course of three years the value of the plant on the ground was not less than £15,000.

On the 12th September, 1846, the first stone was laid, with the usual ceremony, by the Right Hon. the Earl of Auckland, First Lord of the Admiralty, in the presence of all the principal officers of each department, and a large assemblage of the *délite* of the neighbourhood. The progress of the works, though at first they were carried on with the greatest vigour, soon experienced a reverse—through the opposition of certain members of the House of Commons. It was at one time seriously contemplated to give up Keyham altogether, notwithstanding the large amount of money already expended, and its evident advantages to the country.

The indefatigable exertions of Mr. Corry, the late Secretary of the Admiralty, assisted by a few others, however, prevented, in a great measure, this abandonment of a work worthy of any time and any nation. This boast has been exemplified, in a marked manner, on a recent occasion, by the facilities afforded for docking and undocking a line-of-battle ship with all her stores, guns, masts, and crew on board in a few hours.

The work already perfected comprises about 3,800 feet run of sea-wall, three dry docks, entrance lock, south basin, three parts of the north basin, eight powerful cranes, seven caissons, thirty-two large capstans, fifty-two large sluices, and all the underground culverts; two 50 horse power pumping-engines; one 20-horse power engine, for driving fans to supply air to forges, working turning-machine for millwright, and pumping water into reservoir; an iron dock smithy, 140 feet long by 45 wide, with sixteen forges; two iron workshops, 150 feet long by 50 wide; officers' offices for the establishment; entrance gates and buildings for police and military guard, &c.

The South Basin is entered through the entrance lock, and is 630 feet long, 561 feet wide, with a depth of 28 feet water; at which depth it will generally remain.

The entrance lock is 80 feet wide, 275 feet long to outer stop floor, and formed so as to be used on an emergency as a dry dock. The depth of water in front, and at the entrance, at low water, is 20 feet, average spring tide; and at high water, from 36 to 38 feet on the sill; thus affording the great advantage of docking at any time of tide. This unusual depth has been acquired by a system of dredging, which has much improved the run of the stream, and consequently but little deposit has yet been found. The entrance is protected by a large wrought-iron square, or rather rectangular-shaped caisson—42 feet high, 13 feet 6 in. wide, and 84 feet long—which can be removed in fifteen minutes into a recess formed for its reception in the masonry on the south side of the lock, and as quickly replaced across the entrance; excluding the water from the river in the most perfect manner. It is the invention of Mr. W. Scamp, Assistant-director of Works at the Admiralty.

The head of the lock is also closed by an iron caisson of a ship-shaped form, raised or sunk in a groove in the masonry. The peculiarity of this vessel as well as of five other caissons, consists in the method of working. The whole of the bottom or hold of the caisson is formed into one large air chamber, a part of which is occupied by some 230 tons of ballast. Immediately above this chamber is what is called the tidal deck, into which the water has admission through two sluices fixed in the centre of the caisson. A second deck is also formed, above the tidal deck, at about high water mark of a spring tide, on which are provided three tanks, capable of holding some thirty tons of water. The caisson, when afloat, swims to a line on a level with the lower part of the tidal sluice. If it be required to sink the caisson, the *modus operandi* is as follows:—Close the tidal sluices, fill the tank from the main—the weight of water submerging the caisson about eighteen inches; then open the tidal sluices, which, admitting the water on this deck, soon completes the sinking. If to raise, run off the thirty tons of water from the ballast-tank: the caisson becomes buoyant, discharges the water through the lower sluices, and frees the tidal

deck of water; after which she can be removed. A third or upper deck forms a good carriage way across the entrance.

On the eastern side of the south basin, three large dry docks are formed in the solid rock, and faced with Cornish granite: they are drained or filled by a complete set of sluices or culverts, which allow the water to run from one dock to the other with facility, or to the large 50-horse pumping engine, south side of the entrance lock; which engine has facilities for throwing the water back into the basin, if required.

The North, or Queen's Dock is, from mitre-post to head, 318 feet long, 80 feet wide at the entrance, 98 feet wide at midships, and 28 feet water on sill.

The Middle Dock is of similar dimensions, but not so deep by five feet.

The South Dock is 336 feet long, and of similar width and depth to the middle dock. Iron caissons are fitted to all the docks.

Eastward, and immediately connected with these docks, is the dock smithy, provided with sixteen forges. South, and close to this building, is a steam-kiln for steaming oak planking.

On the north side of the Queen's Dock, two iron buildings are ready for the carpenters and millwrights; the machinery for the latter will be driven by the small engine at the east end.

In front of the Queen's Dock, and approached by a neat flight of granite steps, are the officers' offices—a building combining great taste with simplicity of design. The general level of the yard, though seven feet above high-water mark of a spring-tide, is about twelve feet below the level of the street in front of the new entrance-gate, and is, consequently, approached from the yard side by an ascending road at the back of the dock smithy.

The gateway buildings are in keeping with the rest of the work, and have a most imposing frontage: that on the east side of the entrance is for the police-guard, and the south building for the military.

Underneath the latter is the mouth of the proposed tunnel to the Dockyard, which it is intended to construct as soon as an act can be passed in the next session.

Round the basin walls are three powerful iron cranes—one by Carmichael,

of Dundee, which has been tested to forty tons; the two smaller cranes, to twenty tons, and are by Fairbairn, of Manchester. The latter gentleman has just completed another sixty feet high, plumbing fifty-two feet over wharf, to carry sixty tons. The foregoing includes that part of the yard now nearly ready for immediate use. But this is only a moiety of the original scheme.

The North Basin, though far advanced towards completion, is yet some 300 feet short of its proper length, in consequence of the tardy progress making by the Ordnance department in constructing the new Powder Magazine at Ball Point. This basin is approachable from the river by an entrance of 80 feet wide and 27 feet water on sill at high water. Its length is to be 800 feet, by 450 feet wide, and 28 feet depth water.

On the east wall of North Basin it is proposed to erect factory buildings, with store-house, foundry, engine, and boiler-houses, and all the requisite machinery for repairing the largest marine engine now in the fleet. The length from north to south is to be 800 feet long by 60 feet wide; and from east to west, 350 feet long by 60 feet wide; enclosing an area (six acres) which it is proposed to entirely cover with glass; so that work may progress at all times, without interruption from the weather.

On the high ground, near the Saltash road, reservoirs are forming for fresh and salt water, as well as foundations for a neat set of dwellings for the executive officers.

The cost of the work up to this time exceeds £900,000, including £27,000 for the purchase of the estate at Kintbury for the new Powder Magazine.

The probable outlay, when completed, will not exceed £1,500,000. A work of this magnitude claims many parents; but the foundations of the river and basin walls, the entrance lock, and two docks, with all the culverts and sluices thereto, were designed and carried out by R. Townshend, Esq., C.E.—that officer having succeeded Lieutenant-Colonel Williams in charge of the works from the commencement.

All the buildings and caissons are from the Director of Works department, designed by Mr. William Scamp; as is also the Long Dock.

The whole is founded on slate-stone rock, offering a guarantee of stability for ages to come.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

EASTERN AFFAIRS AT GLASGOW.—A requisition, signed by nearly a hundred of the electoral body, has been presented to the Lord Provost of Glasgow, to call a public meeting, to consider the aggressive policy of Russia in relation to Turkey and other European Powers. His lordship, in compliance with the requisition, has agreed to call the meeting for Wednesday, the 23rd instant.

EARL DURHAM'S STOCK.—The annual sale of fat cattle and sheep belonging to the Earl of Durham, took place last week, at Bowes House, on the York and Berwick Railway. The various lots were bought at prices about £3 5s. higher than those paid last year for beasts, and 3s. to 4s. a head for sheep; and these prices, too, for animals in not nearly so good condition. Fifty-three half-bred steers and heifers brought prices varying from £14 to £23 5s.; 14 short-horned heifers, £17 to £24 10s.; 19 Galloway heifers, £15 to £22 5s.; 20 West Highland heifers, £12 to £16; 20 West Highland steers, £14 15s. to £17 10s.; 2 short-horn bulls, £17 10s. and £16. Sheep from £2 9s. to £1 10s. These prices would give an average of 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. per stone for beef, and 7d. to 7½d. per lb. for mutton.

WHEAT SOWING.—In the home counties—in Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Kent, and Surrey—wheat-sowing has been brought to a termination, and only upon the very wet lands has it gone in in an indifferent condition; in the more distant counties a few days will complete their sowing. In Scotland sowing appears to be more favoured by the weather than some places. The *Scotsman* says:—"The land is in the finest possible condition for wheat-sowing; a considerable breadth is already in. With other two weeks of the present weather, the usual quantity will be sown. The fine weather is proving highly favourable for the turnips."

SALISBURY ELECTION.—The polling took place on Tuesday. The city throughout the day has been a scene of continual excitement, and at one time bordering on riot. Captain Julius Roberts withdrew from the contest shortly after two o'clock, when the final state of the poll stood thus:—Buckley, 255; Roberts, 88; majority, 167.

THE LATE REPRESENTATIVES OF HULL.—On Monday evening a numerous and influential meeting of the electors of this borough was held in the Music-hall, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Lord Goderich and Mr. Clay, the late representatives of the town. The testimonials, which originated among the working men, consisted of two splendid silver tankards, which had been subscribed for by more than 1800 of that class, as a token of the esteem in which their late representatives were held, and a mark of sympathy on their having been unseated. Mr. Alderman Biondell, ex-mayor, presided, and the testimonials having been presented by a deputation, the late members severally expressed their acknowledgments.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—Parliamentary notices of this company state that they propose to apply to Parliament for powers to purchase, or lease the Haydon-square branch of the London and Blackwall Railway; to provide hotel accommodation at Euston Station; for provision as to Wolverhampton Station; and for additional station accommodation and land at Birmingham, Harrow, and Cotingham.

NON-LIABILITY OF RAILWAY COMPANIES.—Two cases, establishing the non-liability of railway companies in certain cases where the carriage of goods is concerned, have just been decided by the county court judges. In the first case, Messrs. Benson of Huddersfield, brought an action of £6 18s. 6d., against the London and North-Western Railway, for the alleged value of a quantity of cheeses consigned by a house in Manchester, and which were delivered, crushed, and damaged; but, as it was not shown that the damage occurred upon the railway, or from wilful neglect, the plaintiffs were nonsuited. In the second case, the action was against the Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee Railway Company, for £6, owing to detention in the delivery of goods in London, and booked by the company, the court holding that the company were not liable, unless it could be shown that the detention took place on their own line.

PERPETUAL MOTION AT IPSWICH.—An artisan, in very humble circumstances, residing in Ipswich, has, after three years' labour, succeeded in constructing a model of a machine, 15 inches by 13, and 1½ deep, which is self-acting, and being put in motion by a screw. It is powerful enough to turn a grindstone against the power of one person who had an iron bar on the stone. It has kept in motion upwards of thirty-six hours, at the end of which time the speed was not diminished; and the constructor, whose name is Thomas Stannard, contends that the machine will keep in motion as long as the materials will last. Three persons belonging to one of the first firms of engineers in London have brought the machine and the inventor to London to prosecute inquiry.

SHIPWRECK OF THE "CALIFORNIA" EMIGRANT SHIP.—A correspondent in Acapulco gives the following particulars of this melancholy event:—"Achil: There has been a very sad scene here. The *California*, emigrant ship, which left Sligo on the 18th September, was wrecked at 150 miles from land, last week. The passengers, consisting of men, women, and children, and crew, left the vessel in three boats, two of which arrived here (one at Duoch, and the other at Dugert) with sixty persons, about fifteen of whom have died, some at sea, and some since landing. The survivors are in the hotel, hospital, and private houses, in a most pitiable condition. Nothing has been heard of the third boat; but it is likely she is safe, as her crew were well supplied. Those poor creatures in the colony had not a drop of fresh water on board, and suffered dreadfully from thirst. The vessel sprang a leak, and went down immediately."

ROD-FISHING.—Monday, the 7th inst., being the day on which salmon-fishing with the rod terminated in the Tweed and its tributaries, a number of gentlemen enjoyed the sport. The river was in better order than for some days previous; and several gentlemen killed from two to five salmon and grilse each. During the season the supply of fish in the upper districts of the Tweed has been more abundant than for some years past. Mr. Dennistoun, of Pinnacleshill, has captured since the middle of July last nearly 140 fish, many of them full-grown salmon.—*Kelso Chronicle*, abridged.

THE BOMBAY AND ADEN MAIL.—The terms for the performance of a fortnightly mail service between Bombay and Aden have been agreed upon between the Government and the Peninsular and Oriental Company, the payment fixed upon being the same rate as that received by the company for the other branches of their mail contract with the East, namely, 6s. 2d. per mile.

CONSUMPTION OF DOGS IN PARIS.—The other day (says *Galignani*) some police-agents in plain clothes being at an eating-house in Montreuge, heard two men at a table say one to the other, "Is he dead?" "Yes, but not without some trouble: he struggled hard, and I was afraid of being surprised." "The other must be killed, or we shall be betrayed." The officers, thinking that a murder had been committed, took the men into custody; and, in order to remove from themselves the serious suspicions which their conversation had excited, they confessed that they belonged to a gang who occupied themselves in stealing dogs, which they killed and sold to the low eating-house keepers outside the barriers, to make up for any deficiency they might have in the supply of hares and rabbits. Several of the accomplices of these men have been taken into custody.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

Lord Aberdeen has already given away £530 of the fresh £1200 place by Parliament, "for each and every succeeding year," at the distribution of the Prime Minister for the time being—to be given, the Act sets forth, by way of pensions, to "such persons only as have just claims on the Royal beneficence, or who, by their personal services to the Crown, by the performance of duties to the public, or by their useful discoveries in science and attainments in literature and the arts, have merited the gracious consideration of their Sovereign, and the gratitude of their country." He has, therefore, given away in five months, nearly half of what he has to give away. Let us see how he has distributed it. Here is the list:—

To Sir Francis Bond Head, in consideration of the contributions he has made to the Literature of his country ..	100
To the Rev. William Hickey, in consideration of the service which his writings, published under the signature of Martin Doyle, have rendered to the cause of Agricultural and Social Improvement among the people of Ireland ..	80
To Catherine E. Moir, widow of Mr. David Moir (the "Delta" of <i>Blackwood</i>), in consideration of the literary and scientific works of her late husband in connexion with his profession, his poetical talents, and the destitute condition of herself and her eight children ..	100
To Charlotte Lang, widow of the late Oliver Lang, Master Shipwright at Woolwich Dockyard, in consideration of the eminent services rendered by her late husband for a period of upwards of fifty years, by his numerous valuable inventions and improvements for the advancement of naval architecture ..	100
To Margaret Scot Glen, widow of the late Dr. Glen, missionary in the East for nearly thirty years, in consideration of the service rendered by her late husband to Biblical literature, by his translation of the Old Testament into Persian ..	50
To Lady Nicolas, widow of Sir Harris Nicolas, in consideration of the many valuable contributions made by him to the Historical and Antiquarian Literature of this Country, and the limited circumstances in which his family were left at his death ..	100
£530	

His Lordship has, therefore, £670 still to give away between this and the 30th of June next, and it will reflect little credit on his Lordship's taste for literature, or for his sympathy with becoming diffidence and good conduct, if he does not give at least £100 a year to the widow and daughters of the Ettrick Shepherd. Their cause has active and able friends, and the following memorial, in their behalf, has been most numerously and influentially signed:—

TO THE EARL OF ABERDEEN, FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY.

My Lord,—We, undersigned, beg leave to invite your Lordship's attention to the dependent circumstances of the relict and three surviving daughters of James Hogg, commonly known as the Ettrick Shepherd, and would respectfully express our opinion, that the eminent literary merits of the deceased Poet seem to entitle their names to a place on the Civil List. We cordially recommend the family to your Lordship's early and favourable notice, and should rejoice to learn that their claims were brought under the consideration of the Queen.

We alluded, last week, it will be remembered, to the sale, in Belgrave-square, of the pictures belonging to Lord Ducie, and promised to chronicle some of the prices. They sold well. The Sir Joshua—considering that they were portraits of nameless persons, painted in not a good costume period of our history—brought sums unexpected even by dealers—varying from £30 to £84. No other portraits of unknown persons by an English artist, in his first style, would have sold for equally large prices. The Stanfield "Sea Shore, with Fishermen," brought £283 10s.; and Mr. Mulready's "Interior of a Barber's Shop," a composition of six figures, £750. The Mulready was bought by a dealer (Mr. Wallis); and probably by this time has found a purchaser at Manchester for an additional £250. Lord Ducie gave 70 guineas for the picture, at the British Institution, many years ago. Mr. Mulready—who is still alive, to enjoy such auction honour, though none of the profits of the sale—might supply a curious narrative from his own account-books towards the history of prices of works of art.

Mr. Layard has recently been at Naples, examining the remains of Roman Art. Mr. Charles Dickens, Mr. Wilkie Collins, and Mr. Egg, were at Naples at the same time. All four gentlemen employing their eyes in useful, though in very different directions.

One of the leading features of our next Royal Academy Exhibition (we are rushing into May before November is well through) will be at least one large View of Rome, from the pencil of Mr. David Roberts. Mr. Roberts is at present in Rome, and for the first time. It is easy to contemplate what his first feelings must have been as he came in sight of the great city; and how soon, with the prophetic eye of taste, he rebuilt Rome upon paper, and, more lastingly still, upon canvas. No other painter—not Canaletti himself—has transferred architecture to canvas with a skill superior to Roberts.

We have been favoured with a sight of the selected models for the Guildhall Monument to the Duke of Wellington. They are six in number—by Bell, Foley, Adams, Noble, Smith, and Evans Thomas; and are of the regular Guildhall type—that is, pyramidal in character, to fit an arched recess. In each there is, of course, a full-length statue of Wellington, and each has got (equally, of course) the usual St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, and Guildhall attendants, by way of Victory, Peace, &c.—designed too often allegorically enough. In our opinion, not one of the selected designs should be carried out; but the six artists should be called upon to compete among themselves—the five unsuccessful receiving something handsome in the shape of money for their pains. The prize (five thousand guineas) is worth contending for. The idea of a second competition is favourably received in the City, and will, we are assured, be carried out. Guildhall is sufficiently barren of good sculpture, and cannot afford to have a companion work of art in badness to the Nelson, which has too long encumbered its walls.

A sub-committee has been appointed to superintend the erection of the City colossal pedestrian statue of the late Sir Robert Peel. The site (immediately in front of Chantrey's equestrian Wellington) has been chosen rather with a view to do as much honour to Peel as possible than with any desire to study the demands of sculpture or the requirements of architecture. The true site would have been at the west-end of Cheapside, at the head of Paternoster-row—thus connecting Peel's name, as he himself loved to connect it, with merchandise and literature. The site at Paternoster-row is very good at present, and is, moreover, an improving one; whereas the selected site (one of honour, we admit) is one that every artist would instance as the very position that should not have been selected. Mr. Behnes, colossal pedestrian Peel is to stand immediately in front of Chantrey's colossal equestrian Wellington, as Chantrey's Wellington stands immediately in front of Mr. Tite's large portico. Chantrey already kills Tite, and now Behnes is to kill Chantrey. This seems an injustice to Chantrey, who should never have been suffered to destroy the effect of Mr. Tite's building; but it is, at the same time, a double injustice to Mr. Tite. A statue, if it is to do any honour to a man, should be a work of art; and, if it is a work of art, it deserves to be placed where it can best be seen. Now a bronze statue tells only in outline. To see it to any advantage, you must see it with a background of sky, not with a background of columns, pedestals, horses' legs in bronze, and constantly-passing omnibuses. Mr. Behnes is desirous of placing his Peel as much in the sky as he can possibly put it, without losing the effect of his own artistic excellences. This was Chantrey's object—he was allowed to have his own way—though it is now seen that too great a privilege was conceded to him at the time, and that the artistic character of the whole area in front of the Exchange demanded a different treatment. If Mr. Behnes is allowed, like Chantrey, to have his own way, his man on foot will overtop the man on horseback—and Wellington will look like a big tiger on Peel's horse, only waiting for his

master's call to come up and dismount. We fear that the selected site is a final selection, for the position was carried by a very large majority in a committee composed of merchants, sheriffs, aldermen, and ex-mayors—with only one artist, we believe, on the whole committee. There was a struggle at the last meeting to get the decision reversed; but nothing was gained by it. save the nomination of a sub-committee, to see how the decision can best be carried out—without injustice to Mr. Behnes, Mr. Chantrey, or to Mr. Tite. The committee consists of Mr. Tite, Mr. Peter Cunningham, Mr. Behnes, and the representative of the City Sewers—for the Sewers can always interfere with the erection of any statue. Mr. Cunningham, it is supposed, will represent Sir Francis Chantrey.

MUSIC.

THE SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

This Society commenced its concerts for the season at Exeter-hall, on Friday evening the 11th inst. The performances consisted of Handel's Coronation Anthem, "Zadok, the Priest;" the Dettingen "Te Deum;" and Mozart's Twelfth Mass.

This Society has existed for one-and-twenty years; and, when it is considered that it was originally, and still continues to be, merely a private association of amateurs, without any public character or official support, the magnitude and importance it has gained, and the amount of its effects on the state of music in this country, are indeed most surprising. In as far as our inquiries have enabled us to judge, there is not in Europe another musical establishment, public or private, comparable to it in the extent of its influence; and it well deserves to be classed among the national institutions of England. Time and success have not slackened its exertions; on the contrary, its present management appears to be more active and vigorous than ever. The wise step of selecting Mr. Costa to fill the all-important office of musical director has greatly contributed to its prosperity. He has not only raised the instrumental orchestra and chorus to a state of discipline and consequent efficiency which they never possessed before, but his judgment and experience have been of infinite use in the whole of the Society's musical arrangements.

The Society has issued a prospectus of the season now begun, which is of a very satisfactory character. From it we learn that, not content with the great improvements which, through the Society's means, have recently been made in the interior of the building, it contemplates further improvements, equally important. The Society is at present pressing upon the attention of the proprietors of Exeter-hall the expediency of adopting measures for remedying the present inconvenient, and even dangerous, means of entrance and egress into and from the great hall. Plans have been submitted to the committee of proprietors for the erection of a spacious additional fire-proof staircase, which would be an effectual remedy for the existing evil, and an immense accommodation to the crowds who frequent the concerts and public meetings held in Exeter Hall. We sincerely hope that this useful—we may, indeed, call it necessary—measure will be adopted.

The Society promises the production, during the ensuing season, of several works which it has not hitherto performed—particularly Handel's oratorio of "Deborah," with additional orchestral accompaniments, by Costa; and Beethoven's Grand Mass in D. This work, of colossal proportions and tremendous difficulty, has been several times attempted in London, though never with success; but, with the resources of the Sacred Harmonic Society, under Costa's able direction, we may hope to hear this last great effort of Beethoven's genius in all its majesty and grandeur.

With respect to the production of absolutely new works, the Society entertains views (in our humble opinion) so sound that we have pleasure in quoting the announcement:—

Several new works (says the prospectus) have been brought under the notice of the committee. Without pledging themselves specifically, they intend certainly to produce during the coming season at least one oratorio hitherto unheard in London. The practice of the Society being to perform in each year the more popular oratorios, it is precluded from such frequent production of new works as may be expected from other institutions, soliciting public patronage with the avowed object of performing new music, by either exclusively native or other composers. The committee do not wish to be thought insensible to the necessity for occasional productions of new works of a high class; but they also desire to draw attention to the objects of the founders of the Society, who, in their original prospectus, issued in November, 1832, stated it to be their desire to establish for the Society a reputation of being able to perform the sublime compositions of Handel, and other eminent composers, with that degree of precision and effect which their worth entitles them to.

Such assuredly is, and always ought to be, the legitimate object of this Society. It has often been accused, as well as another association of great excellence and importance—the Philharmonic Society—of not sufficiently encouraging the talent of our young native composers, by the production of their works. Such complaints, in either case, are altogether groundless. It is the duty of these two Societies—of the one to produce, with all possible completeness and effect, the oratorios and other sacred works of the greatest masters; and of the other to perform in a manner which cannot be heard elsewhere, the finest symphonies, and other orchestral pieces of the great secular composers. The fulfilment of these duties is a task quite sufficient for the power of either Society; and neither of them is called upon to interfere with this duty, by becoming a nursery for young musicians. Were they to do so, they would soon feel the consequences.

The pieces performed at the Society's first concert are so well known to the musical public, that any critical remarks upon them would be altogether superfluous. We may observe, however, that the "Coronation Anthem" and the "Dettingen Te Deum," though both of them bear the impress of Handel's mighty genius, yet, having been occasional pieces, written for great religious solemnities, they necessarily lose much of their effect when divested of their original associations. To some extent a similar remark may be applied to Mozart's Twelfth Mass. To be thoroughly understood, it must be heard as part of the service of a great Roman Catholic Cathedral; but it cannot be so heard in England; and a work so divinely beautiful must not, on this account, be lost to us altogether. Even as performed at Exeter-hall, it is one of the richest banquets that can possibly be placed before the lover of music.

THE WEDNESDAY EVENING CONCERT of this week fell rather short of that which preceded it. The selection from Mozart's celebrated opera, "Idomeneo," announced as its most remarkable feature, failed to produce the effect which might have been expected, and was, indeed, very coldly received. This disappointment arose from two causes: the selection, in the first place, was not the most judicious that might have been made; and, in the second place, the performance was but indifferent. "Idomeneo" is especially remarkable for the grandeur and beauty of its choruses, yet not one of them was given. If it be said that the performance of choruses would have led to too great an expense, the reply is, that there was no necessity, in that case, for meddling with "Idomeneo" at all. Another shortcoming in this, as compared with the previous concert, was the want of a great orchestral symphony. This want, however, was in some sort made up for by Beethoven's pianoforte concerto in E flat; a composition so large in its proportions and so powerful in its instrumentation, that it may almost be regarded as a symphony. The principal part was executed by Herr Pauer, who sustained his reputation as a pianist of the very highest class. The largest portion of the concert consisted, as usual, of a great variety of pieces, of a familiar and popular kind, in which many favourite singers displayed their talents. Among them were—Miss Birch, Miss Dolby, Miss Mesent, Signor and Madame F. Lablache, and Mr. Benson. The Hall was well filled; and this portion of the concert went off in a satisfactory manner.

Miss Dolby, on Tuesday evening, began her usual series of Musical Soirées at her own residence, in Hinde-street. This young

lady—not only from her great professional talents, but from her estimable and amiable private character and manners—is deservedly one of the greatest favourites of the public. Her rooms, on this occasion, were filled by a fashionable assemblage, who enjoyed an elegant entertainment of vocal and instrumental music. She herself sang several airs with her accustomed grace and beauty, especially Meyerbeer's fine recitative and romance, "Parmi les Fleurs," from the "Huguenots," which she gave with great expression and dramatic effect. She was assisted by Miss Birch, Miss Cicely Nott, Mr. Land, Mr. Bodda, and Mr. Walter Bolton—the last a young bass-singer of much promise. The principal instrumental pieces were—Beethoven's celebrated trio for the piano, violin, and violoncello, played by Mrs. Thompson (late Miss Kate Loder), Mr. Blagrove, and Mr. Lucas; and a solo on the violin, composed by Viexuimpe, and played by Blagrove. Both were beautifully executed, and (as well as the vocal pieces) warmly applauded.

A contemporary states that Grisi and Mario have entered into an engagement for next season at the Royal Italian Opera. We are exceedingly glad to hear that we are not, after all, to lose these great stars of the opera stage so soon as was supposed, and only hope that the news may be true. But these bright luminaries are something of the nature of comets—erratic and uncertain in their movements; and there can be no doubt that this renewed London engagement is contrary to their intentions not long ago.

Mlle. Sophie Cruvelli has signed an engagement with the Grand French Opera, for two years, at a salary of 100,000fr. (£4000 sterling) a year. She is to choose her own characters, perform only twice a week, and have four months' vacation every season. She has, moreover, made a separate engagement for the period during the Great Exhibition of 1855, at the rate of 25,000fr. a month; so that her salary for that year will amount to no less than £6000 sterling. After this, talk of the extravagance of English terms to singers, which, it is said, make this country the laughing-stock of the Continent! The remuneration of singers is, indeed, absurdly and ruinously extravagant; but it does not appear that we are worse in this respect than our neighbours.

ENGLISH SONGS, AND THE PROGRESS OF ENGLISH VOCAL MELODY.—Sir Henry Bishop's lecture to the members of the Bury St. Edmunds Athenæum, on Tuesday evening week, on "the Progress of English Vocal Melody," was attended by one of the largest audiences ever assembled in the room, every seat and corner being occupied. The Rev. Lord Arthur Hervey presided. Sir Henry Bishop's lecture (says the *Bury Post*) "was not, as too many musical lectures have been, a mere 'envoy,' or means of introducing the songs by which it was illustrated; but a thoughtful and well-composed essay, on the rise and character of English song, evincing the hand, not only of the musician, but of the scholar, the man of taste, and the gentleman." After glancing at the obscurity in which the history of music in the earliest ages was involved, and upon which none of the recent discoveries in Egypt and the East had thrown any light, Sir Henry Bishop acknowledged the greatness of our obligations to the troubadours, the poet-historians of the age of chivalry; but successfully vindicated our claims to a national music, the progress of which he detailed, and the genuine characteristics and beauties of which—melody and simplicity—he ably enforced. Whilst recommending to his hearers the cultivation of music, he deprecated, in the strongest terms, the centaur-like union of the intellectual and the animal, by the alliance of music and intemperance; the examples of which, in the penny concerts of the taverns and gin-shops, he feelingly deplored; and he pointed out the high moral influence which the well-directed use of the art was calculated to exert upon the tastes and habits of society. The illustrations of the various periods of our vocal history were well selected, and were most truthfully rendered by Miss Thornton—a lady gifted with very high musical talent, and peculiarly qualified, by her perfect enunciation and purity of style, to exemplify those excellencies upon which Sir Henry Bishop laid so much stress in his discourse. The series of songs—no fewer than nineteen in number—commenced with three simple old English melodies—the two first with Charles Mackay's words, "The Chimney Corner," and "The Green Lanes of England" (part of the series of English Songs and Melodies now in course of publication in the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*). In the second part, "O Nanny!" was followed by Hook's "Garland of Love," and Davy's "Just like Love;" and to these succeeded four beautiful examples from Sir Henry's own prolific and imaginative pen: "The Mother's last Farewell," "Karoline," "Tell me, my Heart," and "Home, sweet Home." Horn's "Deep deep Sea," and Balfe's "Merry Zingara" closed the lecture, which, for nearly two hours and a half, riveted the attention of the audience.

THE THEATRES.

HAYMARKET.

Mr. T. Morton has contributed to these boards an excellent *petite* comedy, under the singular title of "A Pretty Piece of Business." The materials on which it is constructed are slight, and not very novel; but the dialogue is written with uncommon elegance and *verve*. Much of its effect depends on Miss Reynolds, who, as *Mrs. Grantley*, is engaged by *Miss Charlotte Shee* (Mrs. Buckingham) to flirt for a purpose with her bashful brother, *Dr. Lancelot Shee* (Mr. Buckstone); but, unfortunately, the lady mistakes a *Captain Felix Merryweather* (Mr. Howe) for the modest gentleman; to whom, accordingly, she suggests an accidental assignation in the aviary, and from whose freedom she is glad to escape as early as possible. The captain and the doctor meet, and, upon the same instinct, call themselves, to their mutual surprise, by each other's names. The perplexity is further increased by the intermeddling of the maid-servant, *Dobson* (Mrs. Fitzwilliam); until, at its height, the solution is supplied by the re-appropriation of the right names to the right parties. This comic plot is dashed with a slight tincture of romance in the circumstance of *Doctor Shee* having once nearly drowned himself to save the widow from drowning; and their recognition is touched with an interest, between the pathetic and ludicrous, which was well supported by both performers. The success of the piece was perfect.

On Monday "The Lady of Lyons" was performed. *Pauline* was pathetically acted by Miss Reynolds; and Mr. George Vandenhoff, in *Claude Melnotte*, again exemplified his skillful elocution and graceful manner. The house was well attended.

ADELPHI.

Mr. J. Maddison Morton has contributed the novelty to this house—a arce entitled "Whitebait at Greenwich." Its incidents are partly derived from the French piece denominated, "Japhet à la Recherche d'un Père"—the Japhet here being a certain *John Small* (Mr. Keeley), the waiter at the Crown and Sceptre, who is recommended to the family of the *Buzzards*, as "man;" and thinks that in *Mr. Benjamin Buzzard* he has discovered his lost parent. The proof, however, fails at the last moment, and he loses both his father and the situation; to which he had been named by an aunt of the parties—a brother and sister—who had threatened, in case one of them married, to leave her property to the other. Both, unknown to each other, had married on the same day; both had celebrated the event by whitebait, at Greenwich, in different apartments of the same tavern; and both, on the arrival of *John Small*, are fearful of being identified by him. *John*, however, had forgotten both the occasion and them; but, on being strangely offered a series of bribes for concealing something, he consents to be mystified, and pretends acquiescence. All this, as acted by Mr. Keeley, was admirably managed. The oddity of the incidents makes this little piece a string of surprises; but it, nevertheless, lacks variety of character. All shortcomings of this kind were, however, richly compensated by Mr. Keeley's excellent performance; and the piece was eminently successful.

LYCEUM.

A new comic drama, in one act, by Mr. Tom Taylor, was produced on Wednesday. It is entitled "A Nice Firm"—such firm being that of *Messrs. Messiter and Moon*, solicitors; impersonated by Mr. Charles Mathews and Mr. Frank Matthews. We use the word "impersonated" advisedly; the success of the farce entirely depending on the manner in which these two characters are individualized. *Mr. Moon* is an old lawyer, whose memory is sadly deficient; and *Mr. Messiter* a young one, who is exceedingly impetuous. Between them the business of the office is in the utmost possible confusion—not a paper is in the right place—and the firm is in a fix, because of a life policy being mislaid. The policy itself is a fraudulent one, and the assured is pretended to be dead; and in all this, the "nice firm" in question is about to be victimised. But one blunder, as usual in such cases, serves to negative another; and thus, at last, the firm manages to get out of all the scrapes that it had incurred. The business of the pieces is actively conducted, and the dialogue is so skilfully managed, that, acted, as it is, with remarkable brilliancy and point, the audience were kept throughout in a state of uncommon excitement. The success of this little drama was complete.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Mr. John O'Connell is likely to be the successful candidate for Clonmel. The local Liberal party resist the dictation of the Tenant League, and the leading newspapers of the town support Mr. O'Connell's pretensions.

The office of Ulster King-at-Arms has been conferred on the distinguished genealogist, topographer, antiquarian, and general scholar, John Bernard Burke, Esq., *Globe*.

The Messrs. Burns have contracted for a screw-steamer for the Glasgow and Belfast trade, to ply in addition to their daily line of Royal Mail Steam Packets.

A new line of railway is projected to run from Poole, Somerset, to the Wilts, Somerset, and Weymouth line of the Great Western, between Bruton and Castletary, with connecting branches.

A match for 10,000 dollars recently came off, between two horses, over the Centreville course, near New York. The distance was ten miles, and the winning horse accomplished the last mile in two minutes and thirty-nine seconds.

Lord Elphinstone, the newly-appointed Governor of Bombay, has left St. George's-place for Paris, whence his Lordship proceeds by the Overland route to the seat of his Government in India.

The Archduke Albrecht has arrived at Vienna from Pesth. It is understood that consultations are to be held, under the presidency of his Royal Highness, with respect to certain military dislocations of the Imperial troops in Hungary.

Several of the railway companies have given notice at their stations, that all money tendered in payment of railway fares that is in the least defaced will be refused.

Letters from the Hautes Pyrennees state that snow has already begun to fall very heavily. M. A. Jubinal, deputy of that department, when out with a large party, narrowly escaped being buried alive from the effect of a mountain whirlwind.

The Bank of England have intimated that they will now discount the amounts of the various petty stocks due in January at the rate of three per cent, instead of at four per cent, as originally proposed in the notification of the 2nd inst.

A new club, called the Liverpool Yacht Club, has been established. The tonnage of the yachts is limited to twelve tons.

Dates from Bermuda to the 24th October, report the yellow fever as then abating.

The opening of the Sardinian Legislative Chambers took place on Monday last, at Turin.

The Colonial Secretary estimates the revenue of Ceylon for next year at £404,000, while he calculates that the expenditure will be considerably less.

Although the harbour of Glasgow contains at all times shipping and cargo, aground or afloat, to the value of millions sterling, the Clyde trustees have not yet provided a floating fire-engine.

The Chinese in California have, it is said, subscribed more than 2000 dollars towards the erection of a Christian Protestant Church.

In consequence of the sewers now being carried through Russell-court, &c., into Brydges-street, that portion of Drury-lane from Blackmoor-street to beyond Russell-court, was closed on Saturday last to vehicles of every description.

Within the last eighteen months, no fewer than forty foxes have been found dead by the keepers and woodmen in the vicinities northward of Aberystwith. The foxes died of the mange, and the disease seems to be rapidly spreading.

In the forenoon of the 30th ult. a destructive fire broke out in a grain store-house, on the North Pier of the Atlantic Dock, New York, destroying nearly 70,000 bushels of wheat and corn. The machinery was valued at nearly 20,000 dollars, two-thirds of which received damage.

At a large and influential meeting of licensed victuallers, held at Birmingham on Thursday week, it was resolved to cordially unite and legally agitate "against restrictive laws which operate against the trade."

A nobleman whose estates were lately sequestered by the Austrian Government, has just been created a Senator in Piedmont.

A question as to the extension of bonding privileges to certain quays and warehouses some distance above London-bridge, and which is of great importance to the wharfingers of the port generally, is now pending before the Lords of the Treasury.

Lady Charlotte Guest, of Dowlais, has promised to be at the expense of supplying the whole of Dowlais with water, which will involve an outlay of £3000.

The whole line of the Genoa and Turin Railway is to be opened to the public on the 15th of December.

The Irish export of potatoes to England is increasing, and it has now become a very important branch of traffic.

A fresh supply of 10,000 French carbines has been sent to Constantinople by the Ottoman Embassy at Paris.

The Diocesan Training College at Culham, near Oxford, which was opened by the Earl of Derby in June last, still requires a large sum to bring it to completion, and to place the establishment on a permanent footing.

The Protestant Episcopal Church is steadily increasing in the United States in its communicants, clergy, and parishes. In 1852 there were twenty-nine dioceses, 1650 clergy, 1650 parishes, and 100,000 communicants.

As a trial was being made on Monday week, at Marseilles, of the steam-machinery on board the *Progresseur*, the boiler burst, with a loud explosion, the pieces wounding two men badly.

A sum of 4000fr. has been sent by the Emperor and the Empress of the French to the Patriarch of Jerusalem for the French missionaries in Syria.

In Aylesbury, the sale of ducks realises £15,000 a year. In Norfolk and Cambridge the small farmers pay their rents with the produce of the poultry.

A decree is at the present moment under the consideration of the Council of State in Paris, the object of which is to grant a supplementary credit of 4,500,000fr. towards the completion of the Louvre.

The aggregate number of complaints entered during 1852, in all the County Courts was 474,149. Of this number 12,567 cases were for sums above £2 and not exceeding £20, and 7020 cases were above £20, and not exceeding £50.

An American paper says that Mrs. Emma R. Coe (of Cleveland) has been pursuing a course of legal studies, for the purpose of qualifying herself for the practice of that profession.

Several cases of incendiarism have recently occurred in Devonshire. Two occurred last week; and in each case an agricultural threshing machine was burnt—indicating that the perpetrators belong to that misguided class who view the introduction of machinery as opposed to their interests.

The King of Sardinia has signed a decree authorising the erection of vast buildings at Turin, to serve as dwellings for the working-classes.

The King of Prussia has remitted certain penalties to which M. Wagner, ex-editor of the *New Gazette of Prussia*, was some time ago condemned for offences of the press.

Commissioners will be appointed in a few days to inquire into the general state of the Post-office; and also to take evidence with a view of establishing a uniform rate of oceanic postage.

Letters from St. Petersburg, of the 3rd inst., speak of a fresh levy of recruits, to the extent of seven in the thousand, having commenced on the 1st instant throughout the eastern part of the empire.

A deputation from the directors of the Hungerford-market Company had an interview with Sir William Molesworth on Tuesday, at the Office of Public Works and Buildings, on the subject of the proposed alterations of Charing-cross-bridge and the approaches thereto.

The *Civita Cattolica*, of Genoa, announces that a song by Dante, hitherto unpublished, has been found in the library of Prince Barberini, at Rome.

The Earl of Powis, at his recent rent receipts in Shrewsbury and Montgomeryshire returned his tenantry ten per cent. He has also given orders to advance the workmen's wages on his estates, in consequence of the increased price of provisions.

It is stated that the French Senate is to be convoked for an early day, to receive the notification of the approaching marriage of Prince Napoleon (Jerome) Bonaparte with a Princess of Hohenzoller-Sigmaringen family.

By a recently-issued return, it appears that in the course of last year the increase in the number of persons in public departments was 1462, and the diminution 30.

At Geelong, which is infested with mice, cats are freely quoted at 5s. a head. A Mr. Hitchcock guarantees £1 per head.

It is shown that in the month ending the 10th ult. there were 5,213,854 lb. of manufactured tobacco imported.

Alexander Smith, the young Glasgow poet, has been on a visit for a few days to the Duke of Argyll, at Livery Castle.

The *Ann and Eliza*, of 100 tons, belonging to North Berwick, which sailed for that port from Newcastle on the 25th September, with coals, has not since been heard of, and it is feared that she has been wrecked in the gales which occurred about that period.

MISSIRI'S HOTEL D'ANGLETERRE, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Sir,—A Constantinople letter from your Special Correspondent, which lately appeared in your columns, has given pain to the proprietor of the above Hotel; and, I may add, to me, for Missiri was my interpreter and travelling servant during the prolonged travels which I undertook in Eastern countries, and I can truly say that never was an English traveller more faithfully or more ably served than I was.

Your Correspondent spoke of the Hotel as a "straggling" house, situated in a "lane" of Pera. Now every street in Pera or Constantinople is perhaps narrow enough to be called a "lane," but the street in which Missiri's Hotel is situated is the chief street of the place, and is the one in which stand not only the great palace of the Russian Embassy, but the palaces of all the principal embassies, except the English. It is true, also, that the house is, in one sense, a "straggling" one, for it is very spacious, and its architect (as is usual in Eastern countries) aimed more at securing large, cool, airy rooms, than at effecting economy of space; but I am sure your Correspondent, when his eye has become more used to the beautiful lawlessness of Eastern buildings, will cease to regret that he has failed to find on the shores of the Bosphorus the snug compactness of Eaton-place. The Hotel is, however, upon the whole, so good in its structure, and it "straggles" over such an extent of costly ground, that it is held at a rent of more than £500 per annum.

Your Correspondent was annoyed by a failure which seems to have occurred in the supply of ice. Now the truth is, I believe, that the ice sold at Constantinople is not (as with us) the hoarded result of air tight ice-houses, or a wholesale importation from America, but is condensed snow, patiently carried in panniers upon the backs of mules from the airy heights of the Bithynian Olympus; and a supply depending upon resources of this kind is liable to be interrupted by the operation of natural causes. Accordingly, there are many days in the year when the Sultan, if he is sighing for ice, must sigh in vain.

Your Correspondent was ruffled because smoking is not allowed in the general reception-room of the Hotel. Now Missiri is too sensible a man, and too old a traveller, to attempt to check smoking in a country where every man, from the slave to the Sultan, is accustomed to "drink the breath" of the weed, and, accordingly, every traveller in the Hotel is fully at liberty to smoke the chibouk, or the Nargulie, in his own room; but Missiri knows this:—that among English gentlemen there is a feeling that women should be suffered to breathe in pure air, and that for their sakes the drawing-room should be kept sacred from smoke. I know that this deference to women is failing on the Continent; but, thank heaven, it still exists here; and I am sure that Missiri, who knows so well the tastes and feelings of the English, does well in providing that there shall be at least one of the reception-rooms where a lady may pass her time without feeling that her lungs, and her dress, and her hair are absorbing the essential oils of tobacco.

Pardon me for interposing. Missiri is a man of no ordinary accomplishments. He speaks with accuracy seven languages, and (what is much more wonderful than that) he speaks them sensibly, appropriately, and with truth. Besides, he shared with me so many of the toils and adventures of Eastern travel, and was ever so faithful to me in all his actions—so firm and calm in the hour of danger—that in my memory I regard him as the comrade of those days rather than a servant. During a portion of those travels I had the good fortune to have with me a companion who knows mankind profoundly. I regret that he is now abroad, for, if he were here, I am sure he would join his testimony to mine in favour of Missiri.

The travels which Missiri undertook with Lord Lindsay were of a far more difficult and adventurous kind than mine; and all who have read Lord Lindsay's delightful work know how warmly the writer appreciated Missiri's qualities. In a like spirit Missiri was spoken of in the "Crescent and the Cross" by my dear, lost friend, Eliot Warburton; and, in short, I think there is hardly a writer of modern Eastern travels who has not found some words of grateful praise for Missiri and his Hotel.

From years of travel, passed in company with English gentlemen, Missiri came to understand so thoroughly their simple and manly tastes, their yearning for alternate quiet and adventure, their love of cleanliness, and their contempt of outward show as compared with real comfort, that it would have been strange if his Hotel had failed to please them. But his own qualities are not all. He married an English woman—a most admirable person—and their joint energies are devoted to the great object of ensuring for their guests health, cleanliness, and comfort.

Would to heaven that (instead of being tied as I am for the present to London) I could be dating this letter from Missiri's "Hotel d'Angleterre," with a four-oared caique waiting for me on the shores of the Golden Horn!

I am, sir, faithfully yours, MEMOR.

Travellers' Club, Pall-mall, Nov. 15, 1853.

*** We publish the above letter, in compliment to the writer, who has favoured us with his real name, and in whom we recognise the author of a delightful work on Eastern Travel. It is highly to the credit of Mr. Missiri to have such a warm friend and supporter in a former master, and we freely give him the benefit of all that is said in his favour. At the same time, in justice to our "Special Correspondent," whose statements are commented upon, we feel bound to say that they have not been fairly dealt with by Memor. There are three points only referred to, and we take them in order.—1st. Memor complains that our Special Correspondent described the Hotel d'Angleterre as "a straggling house situated in a 'lane' in Pera." Upon referring to the passage in our Special Correspondent's letter, we find the passage to be, "The Hotel d'Angleterre is a large, straggling, wooden building, approached by a long passage on a slight descent, from the 'Grande Rue,' or principal 'Lane' of Pera;" and this comes after a general description of the streets, which were all said to be no better than lanes; and after an observation that the Hotel d'Angleterre is "the customary resort of our countrymen, and the best advised travellers from all parts." 2. With respect to ice, or "condensed snow," our Special Correspondent complains of its not being in use at the hotel, at a time when it must have been "cheap;" "as the itinerant dealers in penny lemonade carry about huge lumps of it to cool their cans." 3. Our Special Correspondent does not appear to write as if he were "ruffled because smoking is not allowed in the General Reception-room of the Hotel;" on the contrary, after stating that all the meals are served twice a day in the *salle à manger*, he says:—"No meals are supplied in the private apartments; no smoking allowed THERE." This is diametrically opposite to Memor's statement that every traveller in the Hotel is allowed to smoke "in his own room." There is, we submit, further, nothing in our Special Correspondent's statement to justify the innuendo that he would, for the sake of a selfish gratification, be wanting in proper respect for the curls, the dress, or the feelings of ladies.

MR. G. P. R. JAMES.—(From a Correspondent.)—In your Journal of October 8, you state that the dwelling-house of Mr. G. P. R. James, British Consul at Norfolk, Va., had been set on fire for the fifth time; owing to a poem written by him against slavery. Permit me to say that it is a mistake. Such proceedings would not be tolerated in any state; and one must have a poor idea of Americans, to think so. The building referred to is, or rather was, an old smoke-house, not used, and half a mile from Mr. James's residence. Smoke-houses are rudely constructed shanties, with a place for a fire, in which hams are hung up and smoked.

THE "MAID OF JUDAH" CLIPPER.—This fine vessel has been built by Messrs. Walter Hood and Co., of Aberdeen, and combine in a high degree all the qualifications of sailing and carrying so remarkably possessed by Aberdeen clippers. The *Maid of Judah* registers 755 old measurement, 665 new ditto, and will carry 1000 tons; and is fully expected to surpass, in point of speed, any of the vessels hitherto built by the same firm; this, however, will be no easy accomplishment, if we may judge from the passage recently made by the ship *Walter Hood* from the Downs to Sydney, which was accomplished in eighty days. The dimensions of the hull of the *Maid of Judah* are as follows:—Length of keel, 160 feet; beam, 31 feet; depth of hold, 19 feet; length over all, 190 feet.

TIMBER IN VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.—Traffic in this valuable commodity has so rapidly increased, that orders have been sent to England for as many as fifty saw-mills. Cutting and splitting is a more remunerative than gold-mining. The average of the weekly earnings of diggers bear no comparison with an equal number of our Hibernian sawyers.

GALATZ.

GALATZ, a free port, and the only one in Moldavia, is situated on a small projecting strip of land between the Sereth and the Pruth, and about eighty-five miles from the Sulina mouth of the Danube. It is the station whence the steamers for Constantinople and Odessa, when running start. The neighbourhood is flat, and the soil a loose, sandy clay; intolerably muddy in wet, and dusty in dry weather; the houses, that is those of the old town—are of miserable order, chiefly constructed of wood; but a new and improved town is in course of erection in the higher ground in the rear. A recent traveller says:—"Picture to yourself, upon an eminence, sloping rapidly to the water-side, a confused cluster of wooden huts, intersected by irregular streets, unpaved—one alone being floored with logs of wood, beneath which the watery mud squashes and sprouts out as you pass along. In fine weather the dust is unendurable; after rain it is converted into mud, through which foot passengers must wade knee-deep to pass from one house to another. All manner of unwholesome smells issue from the stagnant pools which at



RUSSIAN GUN-BOATS OFF GALATZ.

all times collect beneath the logs. Imagine these cabins, dark and sombre within, and without filthy with mud, surrounded with palisades, a sorry caravanserai by way of inn, with apartments almost without furniture, and as full of dust as the streets; not the least appearance of any order, cleanliness, or arrangement; a town constructed like an encampment, and such an encampment as French soldiers would not put up with a week together; such is Galatz, that is to say Old Galatz, the Turkish town—the aspect of which made upon me the same unfavourable impression that other Turkish towns on the Danube had done. At a distance, the mixture of habitations and verdure seemed inviting and graceful—the view of the interior destroyed the delusion. Fortunately, by the side of Old Turkish Galatz a new town is rising, which will date its origin, like Brailow, from the regeneration of the Principalities. Upon the hill overlooking the Danube, a few buildings have already sprung up bearing a European aspect, and giving promise of what Galatz is likely to be in future.”

THE HALL OF ASSEMBLY OF THE BOYARDS OF WALLACHIA.

THE Assembly House of the Boyards of Wallachia is situated on a small hill in the neighbourhood of Bucharest, and within the dependencies of the Metropolitan Church. The Hall is remarkably simple in its structure and appointments. The Bishop, who is the *ex-officio* President, sits at the upper end of the room, upon a raised seat, under a small canopy.

The costume of most of the Boyards is that of modern European society; but some of them of more advanced age adhere still to the capacious and sumptuous-looking garments, and with them to the flowing beards, which they were accustomed to wear in the days of the Turkish rule. The Boyards who happen to be in the army take part in the deliberations in full uniform, with their swords by their sides. The members sit round a table, which is covered with a crimson cloth; and rise in their places when they speak. The Ministers have no particular seats assigned to them. Part of the Hall is partitioned off for the use of the public, who are allowed to attend the discussions, but are obliged to stand. The concession itself is one of comparatively recent date.

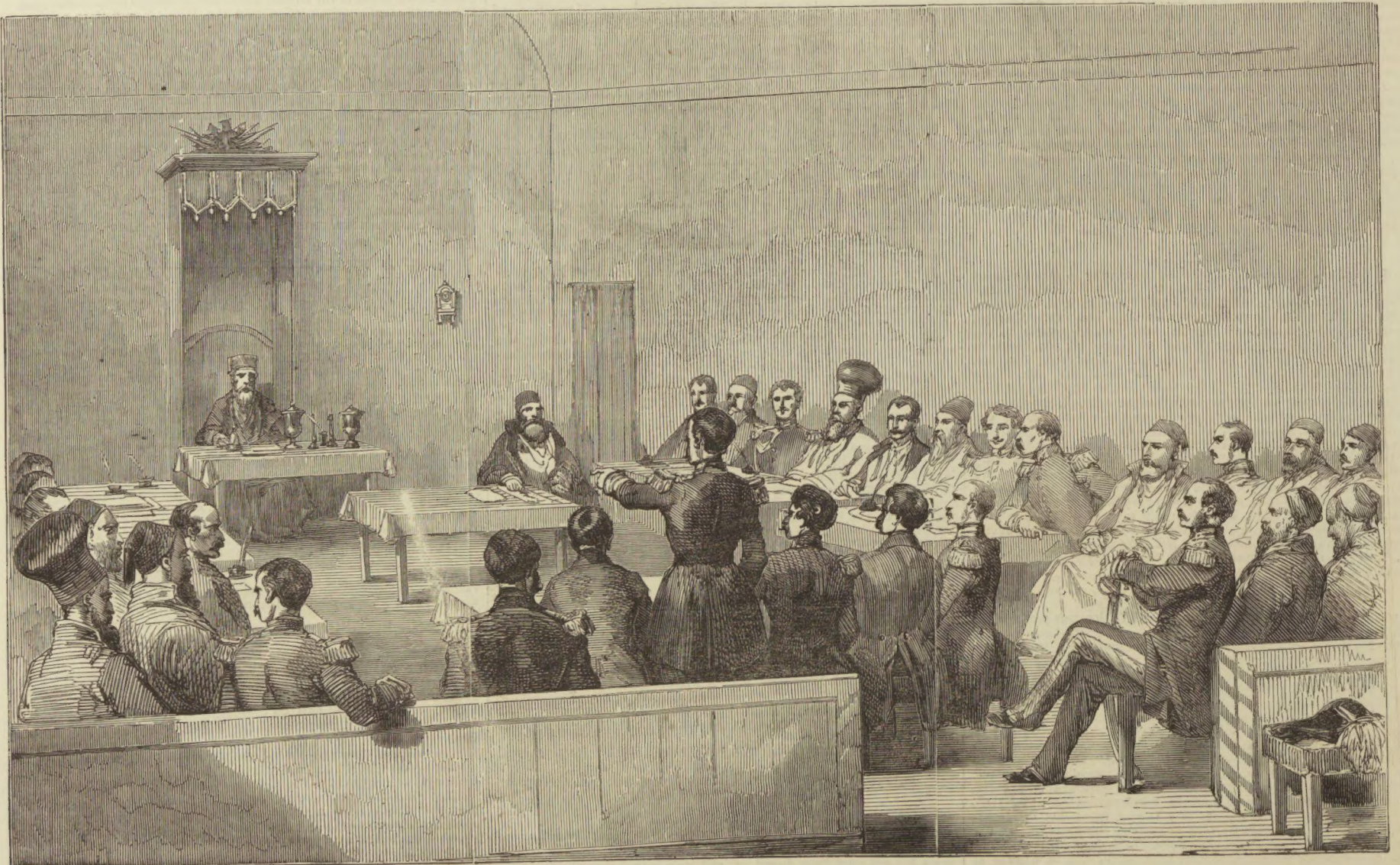
GALLIPOLI.

GALLIPOLI—the *Calippolis* of the ancients, is an important place in the Chersonesus of Thrace, in European Turkey, situate on a small peninsula, on the European side of the Hellespont, about twenty-five miles north of the Dardanelles, and 108 miles south-west of Constantinople. It lies nearly opposite to Lampsaki, the ancient Lampsacus, on the Asiatic side of the Channel, which is here about two miles in breadth. It is a place of importance, historically, having been the first town on the European side of the Byzantine empire which fell into the hands of the Ottomans (A.D. 1357), and which gave them the key to Adrianople, and afterwards to Constantinople itself. The capture of this place, which was then of some considerable strength, was favoured by an earthquake, which

knocked down a portion of the ramparts, making a breach, through which the invaders entered sword in hand. The Emperor John Palæologus—so pusillanimous had this race of princes become—treated the occurrence with levity; observing, that “he had only lost a jar of wine, and a magazine of hogs,” in allusion to the magazines and cellars which had been built by Justinian, and the animal produce of the district.

In 1391 Bajazet I., knowing the importance of the position, caused the fortifications of Gallipoli to be repaired; added a huge tower, and made a good port for his galleys. In little more than half a century after, this acquisition had been made good use of; Adrianople had been taken—the greater part of Roumelia conquered—and, lastly, the capital of the ancient Byzantine Empire itself.

Gallipoli has two harbours—one to the north, the other south—and is the chief station of the Ottoman fleets, and the residence or headquarters of the Capitan Pacha. The walls with which it was fortified have in lapse of ages gone to decay; the purpose for which they were erected being past, and the key to the Ottoman capital from the south being the Dardanelles. The town itself, though covering a considerable space, is but a collection of miserable dirty streets. Its aspect from the water, however, is cheerful and picturesque. It is, nevertheless, the seat of a considerable trade in corn, wine, and oil. The population—mixed up of Turks, Greeks, Armenians, and Jews—has much increased of late years. In 1810, the inhabitants were only 15,000 in number; in 1815, owing to the immigration from other parts of Turkey, they were reckoned at 88,000—though later accounts give them only as 60,000.



THE ASSEMBLY OF THE BOYARDS OF WALLACHIA.

THE GREEK CHURCH.

In considering the present momentous conflict in the East, and the relative positions of Russia and Turkey—the ambitious views of the former and resisting force of the latter—it is not half so important to contrast extent of empire, population, military strength, or other material national element, as it is to calculate the influences of religion, and ascertain the nature and character of the means on which Russia has principally relied, and still relies, for the accomplishment of its aggrandising object—the virtual conquest of Turkey. From the time of Catherine to this date, the Russian Government has been quite aware that the other great states of Europe would not look on with indifference, nor permit the extension of its empire in the direction of Constantinople. It therefore covered its designs with mystery, and adopted the crooked policy it has so long pursued, in order to acquire, by fraudulent and false pretences, what it well knew could not be accomplished by physical aggression.

Under these circumstances, the state of the Greek Church, and of the people who belong to that persuasion throughout the world, becomes a subject of inquiry of the most interesting and essential description. It offers, indeed, the primary key to much that has been done in this quarter during the last eighty years (if not during a much longer period)—especially to what is now doing—and to the agitation which is distinctly chalked out as the ground for future divisions and revolutions. We have, for these reasons, thought it expedient to make a somewhat historical and comprehensive analysis of the case, and its bearings on the issues of peace or war, the balance of power, and the probable fate of millions of mankind.

The foundations of the Greek Church, and the modification of its doctrines, are more directly Apostolic than those of any other Christian communion; that is to say, the preaching of the Apostles, and especially of Paul the Apostle to the Gentiles, is more strictly interpreted into its canons, and forms a more prominent portion of its faith, than it does in the Romish or Protestant Churches. This originated in the general conversion of the Greeks by the earliest Apostles, inasmuch that within the first and second centuries of Christianity the terms Grecian and Christian were almost convertible. The spirit was farther fostered and established by the Grecian Emperors, even to the epoch when the Moslemim overthrew that gorgeous throne.

In process of time manifold corruptions and heresies crept into the Christian Church. The fiercest contentions raged upon the most trivial points—the definition of a mystery or the meaning of a word. In the midst of these Saint Basil, the great Patron Saint of the Eastern Christians, arose, and was the first author and founder of its monkish system. Mount Athos and its numerous monasteries belong to it, but maintain opinions differing from those of the orthodox believers. Many other splits of Sectarisms distract the Greek in the same manner as they distract other religions. The Maronites hold dogmata peculiar to themselves. The Monophysites, or Jacobites, would die or persecute for the principle that Christ had only one nature—the divine (into which Eutyches held the human to be absorbed); and not two—the human and divine. The Nestorians and Chaldeans, on the other hand, are equally stern to the persuasion that the Saviour was a being of two distinct persons or natures. Many other sects, such as Macrosians, &c., are dissenters on minor matters; and some of them adhere to heresies almost identical with those of the Chinese insurgents. Even Manicheans, Sabians, and Jordaens, or Devil Worshipers, have been, and are to be found, scattered among these professed Christians.



PRIEST OF THE GREEK CHURCH.—(FROM A CALOTYPE BY FENTON.)

The great body of the Greek Christians, which we may class as the orthodox church, is divided into three separate governments—1st. Those who agree entirely in doctrine with the Patriarch of Constantinople, and submit implicitly to his authority, rejecting the supremacy of the Roman Pontiff—this is the main stem, and includes the population of the Danubian Principalities; 2nd. Those who differ in certain points, both from the Patriarch of Constantinople and the Pope of Rome, and live under the rule of their own bishops; 3rd. The smallest section, who acknowledge themselves subject to the Romish jurisdiction.

Belonging to the second of these divisions are the Russians (whose Bishops have, however, been superseded by their Emperors), Georgians, Mingrelians, and Servians.

The history of the Greek and Latin Churches for hundreds of years, exhibits nothing but obstinacy and violence; each construing the Scriptures according to its own will and pleasure, and branding the other with the foulest epithets for rejecting what it chose to believe. Eight hundred years the disputes ran so high that the Western Christians excommunicated those of the East and their Church; whilst the Eastern Christians retorted, with genuine polemic fury, by excommunicating the

Romanists! Once or twice attempts were made to bring about a union, but they failed; as did also a similar attempt of Melancthon to effect a conciliation between the Greeks and Lutherans. These facts are so far remarkable, as they prove that the diversity of tenets rests more in ideal than real differences; and that the mortal quarrels which led to final separation, in the former case were rather the result of inflamed passions, than of substantial contradictions. By this light the present mission of the Protestant Bishop of Jerusalem, Gobat, may be deemed more likely of success in the conversion of the Greeks; and it is, indeed, well ascertained that the progress of proselytism among the Greek Christians in the Turkish empire is so prevalent as to constitute the chief religious motive for the interference of the Russian zealots.

As for a union between the Greek and Latin Churches, it may now be set down as impossible; for persecution has widened the breach beyond repair; and argument, instead of convincing, has only confirmed every disputant more incorrigibly in his own opinion, and even exaggerated it—as is almost always the result of polemical controversies.

A brief retrospect of the causes which led to this great schism will be instructive in illustrating the existing condition of things, and, in particular, the rival pretensions in regard to the Holy Shrines in Palestine. In the olden times, in order to enlarge and consolidate their own power, the great Emperor Charlemagne, King Pepin, and their successors, lavished wealth and aid upon the Roman See, in a cordial alliance, and with the spiritual help of which they looked for the successful promotion of their mutually ambitious views. Jealous of this interest, the Greek Emperors naturally sought to check and counterbalance it, by raising the Greek Patriarchate into equal authority and influence. Leo, the Isaurian, and his son, Constantine Copronymus, incensed by the zeal which Gregory II. and III. displayed for the worship of images, not only confiscated the treasures and lands which the Church of Rome possessed in Sicily, Calabria, and Apulia, but withdrew the Bishops of these countries, and also the various provinces of Illyrium, from the jurisdiction of the Roman Pontiffs, and subjected them to the dominion of the Bishop of Constantinople.

Hence arose the virulent contest between these Churches, which was lamentable in every way, and pernicious to the interests and advancement of true Christianity.

Image worship was the first grand source of defiant controversy. Council after council was convened to decide upon it; and the second Nicene Council, by determining in its favour, excited the fury of the combatants to the utmost pitch of hate and vengeance. In Constantinople the partisans of either tenet alternately triumphed. The perfidious Irene poisoned her husband, Leo IV., and the new Idolatrous cause, getting into power, abrogated the decree of the Council of Constantinople, enforced the worship of images and the cross, and inflicted the severest punishments on those who maintained that God was the only object of religious adoration! Anon this condition of things was reversed, and the Iconoclast principle of the Greek Church was not only re-established for ever, but even among the Latins, in several parts, the images and crosses were cast out of the churches and burnt.

On went the strife, and was augmented by such vital and amusing accusations of corrupt doctrine and heresy as Photius, a Constantinopolitan bishop, brought against the Church of Rome—viz., that the Romans fasted on the Sabbath or seventh day of the week—that they permitted the use of milk and cheese in the first week of Lent—that they maintained the right of the bishops alone to anoint baptised



GALLIPOLI, THE CHIEF STATION OF THE OTTOMAN FLEETS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

persons with the holy chrism (an unguent of sacred character in the Greek ritual and practice)—and that they had adulterated the creed of Constantinople, by adding to it the word *filioque*, i.e. *from the Son*, and were, therefore, of opinion, that the Holy Spirit did not proceed from the Father only (the Greek Christian belief), but also from the Son.

Our readers, probably, will not think that these were very important matters; but they and other new controversies, ever added to the old, served to confirm the total and irremediable separation between the Greek and Latin Churches; for which, however, the questions of idolatry, and the unnatural and socially pernicious prohibition of priests to marry, were perfectly valid and quite sufficient grounds. We have seen, besides, that political inducements led to the religious rivalry, as Sovereigns sought support; and we may also add that the disputes for pre-eminence between the Bishops of Rome and Constantinople had no slight influence in determining the elements of creeds upon which millions of their fellow-creatures have been so taught that they have been ready to martyr others, or suffer martyrdom themselves, in defence of any shadowy particle of an incomprehensible dogma, or the form of a sacrament, or the costume of a ceremony.

True religion had but little place in either church, and incredible corruption tainted every part of either system, as it degenerated from perfect purity into a gulf of the grossest immorality—vice and crime. Torn to pieces by heresies, the fulness of time had come for a Mahomet to arise, and found a new faith in Arabia, whence to proceed, and, by the conquest achieved by himself and his successors, establish the Empire we now witness, commingling the Moslem with the Greek, under a despotic sceptre. And it is a remarkable fact that he, the Prophet, far more shrewd and successful than Manes the Persian, set the example of toleration which the Sultan has recently seemed bent on following; though, on the rulers between their founder and him, the lesson was unfortunately lost. But there is yet extant a *testamentary diploma of Mahomet*, in which he promises and bequeaths to the Christians in his dominions, the quiet and undisturbed enjoyment of their religion, together with their temporal advantages and possessions. The genuineness of this testament has been questioned, but the arguments are more in its favour than against it; and it is certain that Mahomet, at his first setting out, prohibited in the strongest manner the commission of all sorts of injuries against the Christians, and especially the Nestorians. It is also observable that when the Turks took Constantinople, in 1453—one part of the city by force of arms, and the other upon terms of surrender—though the public profession of the Gospel was prohibited, and every vestige of Christianity effaced in the former, the inhabitants of the latter were permitted to retain their churches and monasteries, and to worship God according to the precepts of the Gospel, the Greek forms, and dictates of their conscience. From this it is but fair to infer that the Sultan will keep faith with every pledge given to his Christian subjects, as he has already done much to improve their conditions.

Such as it was, the Greek Church flourished during centuries when the Slavonians and Russians were immersed in paganism. It was about the end of the ninth century that the Slavonians, Arentani, and certain provinces of Dalmatia sent a solemn embassy to Constantinople, to declare their resolution of submitting to the Emperor and embracing at the same time, the Christian religion; which caused great rejoicing, and missionaries were despatched to convert the people. A Bishop was also sent; and thus such was the beginning and first dawn of Christianity among the rude and warlike Russians who inhabited the Ukraine, and then, as now, threatened the peace and independence of the Grecian empire. Poland came next in the wake; and in 987, Wladimir, Duke of Russia and Muscovy, who had six years before married Anne, the sister of the Grecian Emperor Basilus the Second, was persuaded by her to be baptized, and his subjects followed the example of their prince; and this is the true date of the establishment of Christianity among that people, who have sainted Wladimir and his Dukes, and continue to worship them, particularly at Kiev, where they are interred.

From this date to 1589, the Russian-Greek Christian Church and people remained under the jurisdiction of the Patriarch of Constantinople, when Jeremiah, the ruling authority in a competition for the office against another candidate, Metrophanes (for it was usually carried by intrigue and bribery), in order to obtain the assistance and pecuniary succours of his Russian brethren, conceded the independence of the Patriarchate of Moscow to Job, the Bishop of Rostow; still reserving a sort of paramount right to an initiatory suffrage, and a tribute of 500 gold ducats. Very shortly after, these obligations were annulled.

Here then was the first emancipation of the Russian from the superiority of the Turkish head, amounting indeed to all but an equality, but to nothing more; and we must see how the Emperor Nicholas can found his claim to supremacy on such a ground, or any other afterwards seized by its civil rulers.

(To be concluded in our next.)

[The Engraving on the preceding page (from a calotype by Fenton) represents a Priest of the Great Lavra, or fortified monastery, at Kiev, on the Dnieper. The individual Priest whose portrait is here given, is the Superior of one division of the brotherhood, which contains altogether the number of 700 persons. He is a man of distinguished ability, being the Fra Bartolomeo of his convent, and having, even more than his Florentine prototype, to find within himself the resources of his art. The range of his æsthetic occupation is more capacious than that of our English artist—including, in addition to the painting of "Holy Mothers," the gilding of the many cupolas of the city of Kiev, which abounds in churches.]

* On this point of the Roman Catholic ecclesiastical discipline, so injurious to domestic security and happiness, Alvarus Delazius, a Bishop of Sylva, in Portugal, in his "Book de Placitu Ecclesie," quaintly observes, "It were to be wished that the clergy had never vowed chastity—especially the clergy of Spain, where the sons of the laity are not much more numerous than the sons of the clergy!"

ENGLISH CHURCH IN PARIS.—The English constantly resident in Paris number nearly 10,000, and the English visitors are seldom fewer than 10,000 more, and sometimes reach 20,000. The present church accommodation does not exceed 2000, a considerable portion of which is occupied by Americans, who are very numerous, and have no place of worship in Paris. A movement is now being made to build a suitable church. It has been resolved that the institution be effectually attached to the British Embassy, whose chaplain, appointed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, shall be the incumbent; that the church be made capable of comfortably accommodating not fewer than 1500 persons, whereof sittings to the number of 500 shall remain for ever free and unappropriated; and that under no circumstances shall money for sittings be taken at the door of the church, unless as voluntary alms and oblations.

A DOCKYARD DISCOVERY.—Not very long ago, a person well known for his accurate knowledge of the sources of English history, was in one of our great dockyards. Here he noticed preparations for a bonfire, and ran to the scene. "What are these bundles?" he inquired. "Nothing but rubbish," said the man. The very tie of the parcels told the antiquary that they were letters, and of old date. "Where do they come from?" he asks. "Oh, they have been lying here no one knows how long; we want the room, and we are going to burn them out of our way." The antiquary took up a bundle—opened the first letter, and found that it was the original despatch announcing to the Government one of the most important events in the reign of Charles II. Telling the men not to set fire to the pile until orders could arrive, the antiquary posted to London, repaired to the Admiralty, stated the fact, and saved the papers. When carefully examined, they proved to be as interesting a series of State documents as any in our national archives.

MATERIALS FOR GERMAN HISTORY.—Dr. Pertz, the head librarian of the Royal Library, at Berlin, has returned from his tour in England, undertaken for the purpose of examining if the principal libraries contained any materials that might assist him in the further prosecution of his great work, "Monumenta Germanie Historica." The most valuable result of Dr. Pertz's inquiries in England consists, we understand, in his having obtained a transcript of the "Chronicon Glacientium," which is of great importance for the times of the Emperors Frederick I. and II., and the original of which is in the British Museum.

ACCELERATED TRANSIT OF THE EAST INDIA MAILS.—The *Indus*, Peninsular and Oriental Company's steam-packet, which left Southampton on the afternoon of the 20th of October, reached Malta on the 30th; left on the same day for Alexandria, which port she reached on the 3rd November; took a fresh departure on the 4th, got back to Malta on the 7th of November, and was to leave for Southampton on the same night. The *Faetta*, with the Overland India mail for Eng and (brought by the *Indus*), left Malta at seven p.m. on the 7th of November.

BALLOONING EXTRAORDINARY.—The Spanish journals state that the French aéronaut, M. Arban, who made an ascent from Barcelona more than two years ago, and had not since been heard of, and who was believed to have fallen into the sea and been drowned, has made his appearance again. An Alicante letter says that his balloon went over to Africa, and that he was seized and made a slave, and continued in that state for two years, when he effected his escape.



ETCHING OF PETER THE GREAT.

THE TRIUMPH OF RUSSIA OVER TURKEY, FORETOLD BY CZAR PETER THE GREAT.

IN HIS ETCHING PRESERVED IN THE ROYAL MUSEUM OF AMSTERDAM.

(From a Correspondent at Rotterdam.)

WITH what is termed the "Political Will" of Czar Peter the Great, the world is well acquainted. Not so, generally, we have reason to believe, is known, the Print etched by the Czar during his stay at Zaardam and Amsterdam, in the year 1698. The only impression existing of the same is now preserved in the Royal Museum, at Amsterdam, of which it forms one of the most interesting curiosities. Although not a gem in point of art, still it has a right to be called the Emperor of etchings. The memorandum in Dutch at the foot of the Print, has been added by Adrian Schoonebeek, an engraver at Amsterdam, from whom the young Czar received lessons in drawing, and who afterwards settled himself in Russia, at the desire of his pupil (Vide Van

Eynden and Van der Willigen, History of Painting, vol. I., folio 250). The following is a translation of the memorandum:—

Peter Alexewitz, the Great Czar of the Russians, has etched this with the needle, on copper, under the direction of Adrian Schoonebeek, at Amsterdam, on the 1698, in his lodgings, at the East India Company's Dock-yard.

Curious as this production is on account of the artist; it is not less remarkable with regard to the subject. At a first glance, it would appear that we had to do with an emblem, simply intended to signify the ultimate triumph of Christianity over Mohamedanism. But, upon further reflection, we find there is something very material at the bottom of this spiritual interpretation. The figure holding the cross, is evidently intended to represent the archangel Michael, the guardian angel of Russia; consequently, the idea of the Czar was not to express the triumph of the Christian Church over the Crescent of Mecca, but of Christian Russia over the Ottoman Empire. The past has shown, and our own times, in particular, prove how faithfully the successors of Peter have followed the direction of his etching point.

LITERATURE.

THE RUSSIAN SHORES OF THE BLACK SEA IN THE AUTUMN OF 1852; WITH A VOYAGE DOWN THE VOLGA, AND A TOUR THROUGH THE COUNTRY OF THE DON COSSACKS. By LAURENCE OLIPHANT. Blackwood and Sons.

Considering the space which Russia occupies in the old world, and the wonderful noise and alarm her "policy" has excited throughout Europe, it is extraordinary how little has been written of her internal condition and resources; and it is to be regretted that so much of what has been written has been far from the truth. The few works which have appeared of late years upon the subject, have for the most part been under the suspicion of having been written by political partizans—either friendly or hostile, as the case may have been—and with special political objects in view; resulting in exaggerations and misstatements, from which nothing certain was to be gathered. Mr. Oliphant, whose "Journey to Nepal" will be favourably remembered, made a tour through the southern part of Russia, in the autumn of 1852, and now publishes the result of his observations upon the moral, social, mercantile, and political condition of that portion of the huge Empire of the Czar. The volume comes very seasonably, and is well worth reading not only by all who are watching the solution of the Eastern question now so prominently before us, but by all who take an interest in the well-being of society at large; a matter too often sacrificed to particular and personal objects. Sure we are that when the picture which the author, in his slight sketches, presents of the moral and political abasement and social misery prevailing in what ought to be some of the richest and most important provinces of the Russian Empire is considered, the reader will begin to suspect that both the power and the enlightenment of the Russian Government have been woefully over-rated by alarmists and flatterers alike.

It is only within the last sixty years that the provinces bordering upon the Black Sea have been obtained by conquest from the Turkish Empire; and, well employed, they might become the most valuable territories of the same dominions in the whole of the continent of Europe. They are in themselves an exhaustless granary, and possess a seaboard which would enable them to become the purveyors of Europe. Yet how improvidently have those rich lands been used; how miserably have their inhabitants been deceived as to the parental succour they were to have received from the "civilising" Government of St. Petersburg. We apprehend, it must be added, in justice to the authorities of the state, that their new acquisitions are no worse treated

than the older dominions of the Czar; that the same system of serfdom or domestic slavery—the same prohibitive policy—the same shameless *bureaucracy*, which oppress the new states, oppress the old states also; and that the whole empire is so hollow and rotten at the core as to make its own cohesiveness a much more critical question than any external influence it can exercise upon the family of nations.

The evils of serfdom are too well known to need enforcement here; but, perhaps, the worst feature in it is the "obrok" system, which insists on the payment by the serf to his lord of a certain rent for the privilege of working for himself. As this "obrok" is increased with the increased gains of the serf, the ardour of speculation and enterprise is naturally damped within him, and skilled labour is fatally discouraged. If agriculture, therefore, is neglected, and the agricultural districts the seats of squalid misery, the towns do not show symptoms of increasing populousness or activity.

Russia (says Mr. Oliphant) is almost devoid of an urban population. St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Odessa, are the only cities whose populations exceed a hundred thousand; indeed, there is some doubt whether that of Odessa reaches this figure. There are only four towns containing more than fifty thousand inhabitants each, and eighteen or twenty with populations exceeding twenty-five thousand. In fact, it has been computed, from the official reports, that there is only one town with an average population of seven thousand, in an area of a hundred and thirty square miles. Now, the result of this is obvious. The absence of any market renders it unnecessary for the proprietor, who has no facilities for transporting his grain to a seaport, to grow more than is sufficient for his own consumption; and the peasant only cultivates land enough to yield the produce required to support his family. It may be said that, with so thin a population, it is unwise to congregate the inhabitants into towns, and leave large tracts of country uncultivated. In support of this theory, the Russian political economist points to those towns founded by the Empress Catharine, for the purpose of trying the remedy above mentioned; and complains that, with very few exceptions, they are in precisely the same condition as on the day when they were founded. This fact proves, says one of them, that "since the days of Peter the Great, it is the Government which has taken the lead in the progress of civilisation; and it is obliged to slacken its steps, in order not to advance too rapidly the wants, the ideas, and the manners of the people." A most ingenious way of solving the problem, truly! Whatever else may be laid to the charge of the Russian Government, to accuse it of being too rapidly progressive is, I think, basely to traduce its strictly Conservative character.

But the moral condition is as low as the physical: all schools are prohibited, except in a few large towns; and in many villages there is not even a priest. "Here," says the author, "in a country which boasts of

the rapid advance it has recently made in civilisation, we saw a large and populous village in a state of utter heathenism, and apparently destined to remain so; though it is a question whether it might not be considered fortunate in having escaped the infliction of some prodigious pestilence. In another place he says:—"Whatever may be the morals of the peasantry in remote districts, those living in the towns and villages on the Volga are more degraded in their habits than any other people amongst whom I have travelled; and they can hardly be said to regard, since they have never been acquainted with, the deities of life. What better result can indeed be expected from a system by which the upper classes are wealthy in proportion to the number of serfs possessed by each proprietor? The rapid increase of the population is no less an object with the private self-owner, than the extensive consumption of ardent spirits is desired by the Government. Thus each vice is privileged with special patronage."

The agricultural country of the Don Cossacks has been so long drained of its able-bodied inhabitants to serve in the wars against the Circassians, that at present the population of the whole province amounts to only 700,000, spread over an extent of three thousand square German miles, thus allowing an exceedingly low average of about two hundred and forty inhabitants to the square mile, giving forty acres of excellent pasture land to each individual. The tallow which might be produced from the cattle of the Don Cossacks, and the corn which might be obtained all along the Volga might supply the world, and make the native population rich and thriving. But there are no means of transport. The navigation of the Volga is impeded throughout by sand-banks, and though a very short canal would suffice to connect it with the Don, and, through its means with the Baltic, this canal has not been made, and probably never will be under the existing régime. Add to this that the harbours at Tazanzor and Kertsch, connecting the sea of Azov with the Black Sea, are daily filling up, through neglect; and we may form an opinion of the wanton manner in which the fine national advantages of this wide territory have been trifled with. Independently of the export trade thus sacrificed, the internal trade from the East—which might have been carried through Tiflis to Redout-Kale, on the Black Sea, or, via Astrakhan and Tzaritzin, into the interior of Russia, which would thus command the carrying trade to a great portion of Central Europe; all which trade goes via Smyrna or Trebizond. But the paltry gains of honest industry are despised by the proud military Government of the Czar, and the transit of foreign goods through its dominions is positively prohibited. The same stagnation of trade pervades all other parts. The commercial importance of St. Petersburg is crippled by the heavy tax demanded for the admission to the guilds; in Odessa, native enterprise is almost paralysed by the same exactions; and the consequence is, that the great proportion of the trade of Russia is in the hands of foreign merchants, about whom, of course, the Government would care very little in the event of a question of peace and war. Like the Don and the Volga, "the Pruth, the Dnieper, the Dniester, and the Bug, are all either navigable, or might easily be made so. At present, little else but wood-rafts float down their broad waters." Add to this the effectual blockade of the Sulina-mouth of the Danube, and we have a fair notion of the systematic manner in which the interests of humanity. For we cannot help agreeing with Mr. Oliphant, that there is some deeper cause than fatality or moral indolence to account for such a state of things. "In spite of the anxiety of the Government to induce an opposite belief, we are constrained to suppose that it is only solicitude for the prosperity of the nation, so long as this prosperity can co-exist with the permanent state of gross ignorance and barbarism in which the people are kept; for it is evident that an extensive intercourse with European nations would open the eyes of this enslaved population, and introduce those principles of freedom which would soon prove utterly subversive to the Imperial power as it at present exists."

Mr. Oliphant, towards the end of his narrative, introduces us to the celebrated naval station of Sebastopol—precincts so jealously guarded that foreigners are not allowed to enter them except upon rare occasions, and then only by a permit renewable every twenty-four hours. This formality was considered too troublesome by our author and his friend, and they accordingly determined to visit the place in a sort of *incog.*, and without leave. There they picked up a few anecdotes illustrative of the system of peculation which pervades every grade of the service, being the only means by which the employés manage to live on their miserable pay. One of the most common methods is that of sub-contracting in the *ur.* hase. *o* materials or stores; timber, for instance, each man pocketing the difference between his contract and that of his neighbour. "When the wood is produced before the Board appointed to inspect it, another bribe seasons it, and the Government, after paying the price of well-seasoned oak, is surprised that the 120-gun ship, which has been built of it, is unfit for service in five years." Mr. Oliphant, after hearing of this and other similar instances of ingenuity, was not surprised to hear, "that out of the imposing array before them (in Sebastopol) there were only two ships in a condition to undertake a voyage round the Cape." Deducting unseaworthy ships, "it would appear that the Black Sea fleet—that standing bulwark of the unfortunate Porte—will dwindle into a force more in proportion to its limited sphere of action, and to the enemy which, in the absence of any other European power, it will encounter." In short, "there is no reason to suppose that the navy forms an exception to the rule, that all the great national institutions of Russia are artificial;" to which we would add, in most points, imaginary also.

The sort of training the Russian sailor receives, has been described by other writers; it is a *interim* kind—a very small complement are kept on board the ships whilst in harbour, the majority of the crews being employed on shore. When the Emperor takes it into his head to have a grand naval review, of course all the men are draughted back to their ships, and allowed a day or two to get their sea legs. One of these displays took place at the time of Mr. Oliphant's visit; but, not being an invited guest, he thought it prudent to retire. He heard afterwards, however, that "the Emperor did not accompany the fleet in their short cruise outside the port, but expressed himself much dissatisfied with their performances." And, as a memento of his visit, his Majesty consigned the Governor of Sebastopol to the gaols.

The following curious account of this imposing fortress will be read with interest at the present moment. It sounds very differently from what is put forth by the Russian authorities of this Gibraltar of the Black Sea; and, we need hardly add that we do not vouch for the accuracy of all the particulars:—

Nothing can be more formidable than the appearance of Sebastopol from the seaward. Upon a future occasion we visited it in a steamer, and found that at one point we were commanded by twelve hundred pieces of artillery. Fortunately for a hostile fleet, we afterwards heard that these could not be discharged without bringing down the rotten batteries on which they are placed; and they are so badly constructed that they look as if they had been done by contract. Four of the forts consist of three tiers of batteries. We were, of course, unable to do more than take a very general survey of these celebrated fortifications, and therefore cannot vouch for the truth of the assertion, that the rooms in which the guns are worked are so narrow and ill-ventilated, that the artillerymen would be inevitably stifled in the attempt to discharge their guns and their duty; but of one fact there was no doubt—that however well fortified may be the approaches to Sebastopol by sea, there is nothing whatever to prevent any number of troops landing a few miles to the south of the town, in one of the six convenient bays with which the coast, as far as Cape Kherson, is indented, and marching down the main street (provided they were strong enough to defeat any military force that might be opposed to them in the open field), sack the town, and burn the fleet.

On his return route up the Danube Mr. Oliphant had an opportunity of contrasting the then prosperous state of the Danubian Principalities with the Russian province of Bessarabia; and observes:—"It is not to be wondered at that the inhabitants of Moldavia and Wallachia dread the day when the blighting influence of Russian administration will be extended along the shores of the Danube as far as the Austrian frontier; for, in the past history of Bessarabia, they see their own unhappy fate."

This observation, with some details to the same end, were written a twelvemonth ago—before the recent audacious act of occupation. Since that period the aspect of affairs has a little changed in the East; and leaves us reason to hope that the blighting and demoralising influence of Russia may, ere long—even on this scene of her ambitious operations—receive a check which she will not speedily forget.

In closing our notice of Mr. Oliphant's book, we can safely recommend it for the variety of interesting matter it contains, and the intelligent style in which treated. Further, the pages are enlivened by the introduction of numerous clever vignette sketches.

PRICES IN VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.—The prices here are enormous. Beef, 10d.; mutton, 7d.; butter, 3s. 6d. to 4s. per lb.; eggs have been 5d. each; firewood, 2s. per load (it was 8s. in May, 1852, and 5s. in May, 1851); coals (mere black stones), 63s. per ton, formerly 9s.; milk (more than half water), 1s. per quart; but clothing is getting cheaper, which is some compensation.—*New Zealand Gazette.*

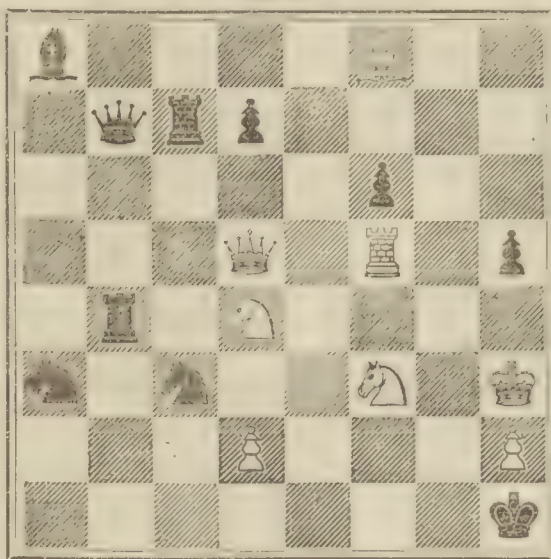
CHESS.

* * * The length to which the Match Games run compels us to postpone our answers to Correspondents.

PROBLEM No. 510.

A capital study, by Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

MATCH BETWEEN MESSRS. LOWENTHAL AND HARRWITZ.

Another chance, no less remarkable than the former, has taken place in this contest, which now promises to be a much closer fight than could have been expected after the first nine or ten games. Up to the moment we write the match stands:—

Lowenthal	..	..	..	..	9
Harrwitz	..	..	..	..	7
Drawn	..	..	..	..	6

Subjoined is a well-fought game played lately in this interesting contest.

(Philidor's Defence to the Knight's opening.)

WHITE (Mr. L.)	BLACK (Mr. H.)	WHITE (Mr. L.)	BLACK (Mr. H.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 3rd	23. Kt to Q B sq	Kt to K B sq (g)
2. Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 4th	24. Q R to Q Kt sq	P to Q B 4th
3. B to Q B 4th	B to K 2nd (a)	25. Q R to Q Kt 2nd	K to B 2nd
4. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd	26. P to Q B 4th (h)	Q R to Q R 4th
5. P to Q 2nd	Castles.	27. P to Q Kt 4th	P takes Q B sq P
6. P to K R 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	28. Q R takes P	K R to Q B sq
7. B to K Kt 5th	B to K 3rd (b)	29. Kt to Q 3rd (i)	P takes P
8. B takes Kt (c)	K B takes Q B	30. K takes Q Kt P	K to B 3rd
9. B to Q K 2nd	Kt to K 2nd	(ch)	
10. Kt to K 2nd	P to Q B 3rd	31. K R to Q B 2nd	Q R to Q R 6th
11. B takes B	P takes B	32. Kt to Q Kt 2nd	Q R takes Q R P
12. P to Q B 3rd	P to Q 4th	(k)	
13. Q to Q Kt 3rd	Q to Q Kt 3rd	33. K takes Q B P	Q R takes Kt
14. Castles	Kt to K Kt 3rd	34. K R takes K R	K takes R
15. Q takes Q	P takes Q	35. K takes Kt (ch)	K to K 2nd
16. P to K Kt 3rd	Q takes K P	36. K to K R sq (l)	R to K 5th
17. P takes P	Q R to h 5th (d)	37. P to K B 3rd	R to Q Kt 7th (m)
18. Kt to Q 2nd	B to K h 3rd	38. K to Q R 7th (ch)	K to B 3rd
19. P to Q Kt 3rd (e)	Q R to his 3rd	39. P to K Kt 4th	P to K R 2nd
20. K R to Q sq	P to Q Kt 4th (f)	40. P to K R 5th	P to K Kt 4th
21. P to K R 4th	B takes Kt	41. K to K R 7th	R to K Kt 7th
22. K R takes B	K R to K R sq	(ch)	

And draws the game; because if White take his adversary's Rook, he is stalemated.

(a) This, or P to Q B 3rd, is the best move at the present moment. If Black play the latter, and White should reply with P to Q 4th, Black may obtain a tolerably free game, by advancing his Pawn to Q 4th also.

(b) The defence adopted by Mr. Harrwitz, gives him a constrained game for a long time; but under this disadvantage, the fight is very ably.

(c) This appears to give the enemy more freedom than is desirable, and yet we doubt if Mr. Lowenthal could have done better.

(d) The attack obtained by this move, compensates, in some degree, for the ugly doubled Pawns on Black's side.

(e) The position, it will be remarked, is very critical for White, and without great care he would certainly have suffered some loss at this point.

(f) K R to Q sq would only have been a loss of time, as White could have replied at once with Kt to K B 3rd, &c.

(g) This Kt is badly posted, and the difficulty of bringing him into play is a more serious drawback to Black's game than even his doubled Pawns.

(h) At this juncture, it is to be hoped, Mr. Lowenthal had a winning game. Instead of the move made—an ingenious one, no doubt—we believe he should have played his Kt to Q 3rd; in which case the following is a more probable continuation:—

17. Kt to Q 3rd Kt to Q 2nd

(We see no better or more likely move.)

18. Kt to Q Kt 4th P takes Kt

(Again, this seems his most feasible mode of playing.)

19. K R takes Kt (ch) K to K sq

20. K takes Q Kt P P takes P, or

21. Q R to Q B 2nd Q R to Q B 2nd

(If he play this Rook to Q 5th, White can safely take the King's Pawn.)

22. K takes R P takes R

23. K to K 2nd

And White wins easily.

* 30. R takes R R takes R

31. R takes R R takes R

(If R to K 7th, then follows P to K B 3rd, &c.)

32. R takes P—winning much trouble.

(i) Instead of this move, he ought, we think, to have played the Kt to Q Kt 3rd, in which case the game would, most likely, have been carried on as follows:—

30. Kt to Q Kt 3rd Q R to his 3th

31. Q R takes P Q R takes Q B P

(If he take this P with the other Rook, White must win, we think, without much trouble.)

32. Q R takes Q Kt P (ch)

And White has a Pawn more, and a better situation than his adversary.

(j) Even here, with ordinary attention, Mr. Lowenthal might, we apprehend, have won the game. He should, if we make no mistake in our calculations, have played his Kt to K sq; then to K Kt 2nd, and afterwards to K 3rd, threatening a deadly check at K Kt 4th. Such is the chief issue of Black's position, that these moves could hardly be prevented.

(k) P or R to K B 3rd, allowing his King an opportunity of coming into the field would surely have been better, I judge.

(l) A good move, as it paralyzes the action of the White King for some time.

ANOTHER GAME IN THE MATCH.

(Philidor's defence to the Knight's opening.)

BLACK (Mr. H.)	WHITE (Mr. L.)	BLACK (Mr. H.)	WHITE (Mr. L.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	13. B to Q B 3rd	Q Kt to Q 2nd
2. Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd (a)	14. Kt takes Kt	K takes Kt
3. P to Q 4th	P takes P	15. B to Q B 2nd	P to K Kt 3rd
4. Q takes P	Kt to K B 3rd	16. B takes Kt	B takes B
5. P to K 5th	P to K 2nd	17. Castles on Q	B to Q 5th (d)
6. B to K 3rd	P takes P	side (c)	
7. Kt takes P	Q to her Kt 5th	18. K R to K sq	B to K Kt 2nd (e)
(ch)		19. P to Q Kt 3rd	B to K R 3rd
8. Q Kt to Q 2nd	Q takes Q	20. P to K Kt 3rd	Q R to Q sq
9. Q B takes Q	Q B to K 3rd	21. K R to K B sq	B to K Kt 2nd (g)
10. B to Q 3rd	B B to K 2nd	22. Kt to K 4th (h)	R takes R (ch)
11. P to Q B 4th	Castles	23. R takes R	R takes R (ch)
12. P to K B 4th	K R to Q sq (b)	24. K takes R	

The game was carried on some moves further, and then resigned as a drawn battle.

(a) We have here the same attack and the same defence as in the preceding game—the position of the combatants, however, being reversed.

(b) Even this early in the game, Lowenthal has wrested the attack into his own hands, and got the best of the situation.

(c) Black had a bad position before, but this makes it worse. From the present moment he ought never to have had a chance of saving the day.

(d) Lost time. If instead of this third, useless move, he had only played Q R to Q sq, Mr. Harrwitz would have been put out of pain as far as the present match is concerned. Suppose, for example:—

17. Kt to K 4th Q R to Q sq

(If he play P to Q Kt 4th, White replies equally with B to Q 4th.)

18. B to Q 5th

And Black must lose one of his best Pawns, and have a still more inferior position.

(e) Lost time again!

(f) Lost time once more! Such is the play often of the best and strongest, when worn out by the fatigue and anxiety of a long-protracted chess match! But such was not the play (oh how unskillfully) by which Mr. Lowenthal, without a break, scored two games running in this same contest!

(g) For the benefit of young players, it may be well to remark that White could never play his other Bishop to K R 3rd, on account of his adversary replying with Kt to K 4th, and threatening a check at K B 5th, &c.

(h) Well played. Black after this can almost assure a drawn fight.

[Whatever may be the result of this contest, no one, we think, who has critically examined the play will venture to deny that in all the higher

qualities of play Mr. Lowenthal has fairly vanquished his more showy opponent. Putting aside for a moment the earlier games in which, by sheer strategical superiority, he literally beat his adversary into hopelessness, it is impossible for any one with a spark of judgment to analyze the present and the next game played without feeling convinced that in resource and in depth of calculation the Hungarian is the stronger player. In these two games the opening is the same—Lowenthal having the attack in one, and Harrwitz in the other. In both games, whether conducting the attack or bearing the brunt of it, Lowenthal so completely out-plays his foe as to acquire a winning position. It is true that, owing to the exhaustion inseparable from many weeks' hard play, he fails to turn the advantage obtained to the account he would have done in an earlier stage of the contest; and Mr. Harrwitz luckily escapes with two drawn games. But had these games occurred only ten days before, Lowenthal would have scored both to a certainty, and been proclaimed the winner of the match.]

NOMINATION OF SHERIFFS.

On Saturday last the Lords of the Privy Council assembled in the Court of Exchequer, in pursuance of ancient custom, to proceed to "the nomination of Sheriffs for the year ensuing for all the counties in England and Wales, with the exception of Cornwall and Lancashire." The Lords of the Council present were the Earl Granville, the Lord Chancellor, the Right Hon. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord Campbell, Sir John Jervis, Sir F. Pollock, Mr. Baron Parke, Mr. Baron Alderson, Mr. Justice Coleridge, Mr. Justice Wightman, Mr. Baron Platt, and Mr. Justice Talfourd. The list was settled in the following form:—

ENGLAND.

BEDFORDSHIRE.—Frederick Charles Polhill Turner, of Howbury-hall, Esq.; John Shaw Leigh, of Luton Hall, Esq.; Sir George Robert Osborne, of Chicksands, Berkshire.

BERKSHIRE.—James Joseph Whibley, of Bulmershe-court, Esq.; Henry Elwes, of Macham-park, near Abingdon, Esq.; Sir Claudius Stephen Paul Hunter, of Mortimer-hill, Bart.

BUCKS.—Henry Hanner, of Stockgrove, Esq.; Philip Duncombe Pauncost, of Duncombe, of Great Lickhill, Esq.; William Frederick Farrer, of Brayhead House, Esq.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE.—William Wells, of Holme, Esq.; George William Rowley, of St. Neot's, Esq.; Sir John Henry Felley, of Woodhurst. The nomination this year is from Huntingdon.

CUMBERLAND.—George Saul, of Brunstock, Esq.; Thomas Alison Hoskins, of Higham, Esq.; Thomas Story Spedding, of Mirehouse, Esq.

CHESHIRE.—Francis Luckinfield Palmer Astley, of Duckinfield, Esq.; John Chapman, of Hill End, Mottram, Esq.; Richard Christopher Naylor, of Hooton Hall, Esq.

DERBYSHIRE.—William Drury Lowe, of Locks Park, Esq.; Peter Arkwright, of Wharfedale, Esq.; the Right Hon. Henry Manners, Lord Waterpark, of Doeridge.

DEVONSHIRE.—Arthur David Bassett, of Watermouth, Esq.; Edward Studd, of Oatton, Esq.; Richard Sommers Gard, of Rougemont, Esq.

DORSETSHIRE.—Sir Henry Oglander, of Painham, Bart.; Robert Williams, of Brideshead, Esq.; George Wheelton, the younger, of Wyke House, Esq.

DURHAM.—Henry John Baker Baker, of Elemore Hall, Esq.; William Peareth, of Casworth House, Esq.; Robert Surtees, of Redworth House, Esq.

ESSEX.—Thomas White, of Weathersfield, Esq.; John Watlington Perrington, of Moor Hall, Esq.; Robert Hills, of Colne Engaine, Esq.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—John Henry Elwes, of Colesborne, near North-leach, Esq.; Corbet Holland Corbet, of Admington House, Esq.; Sir Charles Rushout Rushout, of Segincote House, Bart.

HEREFORDSHIRE.—Richard Hereford, of Tattou Court, Esq.; Elias Chawick, of Luddestone, Esq.; Richard Francis Wegg-Fraser, of Belmont, Esq.

MERTHURSHIRE.—Robert Hanbury, of the Poles in Kemridge, Esq.; Nathaniel Herbert, of Munden in Watford, Esq.; William Joseph Myers, of Porters in Shenley, Esq.

KENT.—Alexander Glendening, of Ashgrove, Sevenoaks, Esq.; John Angstein, of Woodlands, Blackheath, Esq.; Sir Walter Charles James, of Bet-hanger, Bart.

LEICESTERSHIRE.—Cosmo George Charles Kevill, of Holt, Esq.; Henry Corrie Bingham, of Warraby, Esq.; William Ward Taelby, of Lumberstone, Esq.

LINCOLNSHIRE.—Anthony Wilson, of Rancely Hall, Esq.; George Skipton, of Moorton House, Esq.; the Hon. Alexander Leslie Melville, of Cranston Hall.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Thomas Brown, of Ebbw Vale, Esq.; John Russell, of Absea, Esq.; William Case, of Penhow, Esq.

NORFOLK.—Brampton Gordon, of Litton, Esq.; Robert Kellett Long of Dunston, Esq.; Sir Robert John Harvey, of Thorpe, Knight.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.—The Right Hon. Anthony Henley, Lord Henley, of Watford; George Hall, of Barton Segrave, Esq.; the Hon. Frederick William Child Villiers, of Sully Hall.

NORTHUMBERLAND.—Stamp Brooksbank, of the Hermitage, Esq.; Samuel Edward Widdington, of Newton Hall, Esq.; Rowland Errington, of Sandhoe, Esq.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—Samuel Bagnall Wild, of Costock, Esq.; Henry Bridgman Simpson, of Babworth, Esq.; Samuel William Welatt, of Langwith Lodge, Esq.

OXFORDSHIRE.—John William Fane, of Wormsley, Esq.; Benjamin John Whippy, of Lee-place, Charlbury, Esq.; Edwin Guest, of Sandford-park, Esq.

RUTLANDSHIRE.—Robert Lee Bradshaw, of Tinwell, Esq.; Charles Ormiston Baron, of Taver, Esq.; Arthur Heathcote, of Pilton, Esq.

SHERIFFSHIRE.—Robert Aglionby Blaney, of Walford Manor, Esq.; Willoughby Hall Stowell, of Lucknall, Esq.; Edward Lloyd Gatacre, of Gatacre Hall, Esq.

SOMERSETSHIRE.—James Curtis Somerville, of Dinder, Esq.; William Phelps, of Montacute, Esq.; George Barons Northcote, of Somerset-court, Esq.

STAFFORDSHIRE.—John Davenport Westwood, Esq.; Richard Dyott, of Freiors, Esq.; Thomas William Giffard, of Chillingham, Esq.

COUNTY OF SOUTHAMPTON.—Jeremiah Robert Lives, of Bentworth Hall, Esq.; James Edward Bradshaw, of Fair-oak-park, near Winchester, Esq.; the Hon. Sir Edward Butler, of Harefield, Southampton.

SUFFOLK.—Windsor Parker, of Clifton Hall, Rattlesden, Esq.; John Josselyn, of St. Edmunds-hill, Bury St. Edmunds, Esq.; Andrew Arce-duckne, of Grevering Hall, Litchfield, Esq.

SURREY.—Robert Gosling, of Botley-park, Esq.; Robert Wigram Crawford, of Mickleham Hall, Dorking, Esq.; George Carew Gibson, of Brathstone Brook, Guildford, Esq.

SUSSEX.—John Day, of Newick, Esq.; William Whitter, of Worthing, Esq.; William Crane, of Hastings, Esq.

WARWICKSHIRE.—William Charles Alison, of Edmond, Esq.; Joseph Moore Boulcher, of Springfield, Esq.; Sir Chandos Wren Craock Har-rop, of Four-oaks Hall, Sutton Coldfield, Bart.

WESTMORELAND.—Walter Charles Strickland, of Sizergh Hall, Kendal, Esq.; John Wilson, of the Howe, Windermere, Esq.; John Hill, of Bank-tou, Esq.

WILTSHIRE.—Edmund Lewis Clutterbuck, of Hardenhuish park, Esq.; Sir Francis Dugdale Astley, of Everleigh-park, Bart.; Simon Watson Taylor, of Uxale, Esq.

WORCESTERSHIRE.—Edward Bearcroft, of Mere Hall, near Bromsgrove, Esq.; William Dodsdeswell, of Painscourt, near Tewkesbury, Esq.; Francis Edward Williams, of Doddenham, Esq.

YORKSHIRE.—Henry Willoughby, of Birdall, Esq.; James Brown, of Cogrove, Esq.; Sir George Wombwell, of Newburgh-park, Bart.

WALES.

THE WORDSWORTH MEMORIAL WINDOW, COCKERMOUTH CHURCH.

IN the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Nov. 30, 1850, we illustrated the destruction of Cockermouth Church by fire; since which period, after considerable local difficulties, a new Church of large extent has been built by Mr. Clarke, F.S.A., architect, of Stratford-place, Oxford-street.

The new edifice forms a crowning point over the town, on the hill site of the old building; the spire rising above the landscape, and forming an interesting feature in the scenery from the Vale of Lorton, where terminates the usual lake tour from Buttermere. The rebuilding of the Church has afforded to the friends and admirers of the poet Wordsworth an interesting opportunity of raising a Memorial in his native place, and on the spot where he first received the rudiments of early education. His father and mother were buried at the east end of the new Church, and the school stands in the churchyard.

The poet is known to have expressed himself most feelingly on the subject of the old Church, which he was even then anxious to see rebuilt. With the view of perpetuating the interest thus taken by the deceased poet, it was resolved to fill one of the windows of the new Church with the richest stained glass to his memory. The commission was entrusted to Messrs. Hardman, of Birmingham, who have produced one of the finest specimens of colour and design yet seen.

The Window is composed of five lights; the head being filled with geometrical tracery. Each light contains two canopies and three circles. Beneath the canopies of the centre light are figures of the Saviour and St. John. Beneath the canopies on one side are figures of the Four Great Prophets; on the other side are figures of the Four Evangelists. The circles of the centre light contain figures of St. Joseph, St. Mary, and David. The circles of the four side-lights contain figures of the Twelve Lesser Prophets. Those in the centre light, by Abraham, represent Melchisedek, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, and Aaron. The openings of the supermullioning are filled in with figures of Adam, Eve, Seth, and Noah; besides two groups of Saints—the one St. Mary Magdalen, &c.; the other St. Stephen, St. Alban, &c.

The following inscription, in old letters, recording the Memorial, on a brass plate and electro-gilded, has been cut, and will be let into the north east pier of the central tower:—

To the Glory of God, and the honoured Memory of William Wordsworth, Poet Laureate, the East Window of this Church is raised, in this his native place, by public subscription.

The cost of the Window will exceed £300.

SECKFORD HOSPITAL, WOODBRIDGE.

AMONG the many noble institutions founded by the benevolence of our ancestors, the Hospital at Woodbridge, in Suffolk, is entitled to special prominence. This noble charity was originally established in the year 1587, by Thomas Seckford, Esq., Master of the Requests, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; it being intended for the reception of thirteen poor men, and three poor widows, as nurses to the alms-men. For the support thereof, Seckford endowed the foundation with an estate in the parish of St. James, Clerkenwell, Middlesex, where "Seckforde" and "Woodbridge" streets keep in memory the munificence of the "Master." The foundation also possesses Corporation-row, Islington; and certain property in and near Woodbridge: the entire value of the property exceeds £2200 per annum. A surplus of more than £8000 is invested in the Public Funds, so that the charity may be hereafter extended.

The original Hospital, erected in 1587, having been found inadequate to the purposes of the institution, a new edifice has been erected, and the old Almshouses are let at low rents to indigent tenants. The new Hospital stands on a piece of ground, called Copt Hall, belonging to the trust. The Elizabethan style has been appropriately chosen. The plan consists of two wings, with an elegant chapel in the centre; and open arcades at each end, due east and west. The materials are bricks, with zig-zag lozenge corners and pilasters, of intermixed red and white bricks. The roof has a loop-hole parapet, and ornamental ridge-tiles; and at each angle is a bell-turret. The extent of the frontage is 337 feet.

The chapel has oak fittings, including stalls for the governors and churchwardens; and there is accommodation for a certain number of the inhabitants of Woodbridge.

The massive iron entrance gates are richly emblazoned in bronze and

gold with the arms of Mr. Seckford; of the late governors; and of the governors at the time of the rebuilding of the Hospital, viz., Lord Langdale and Sir Nicolas Tindal; the governors of the Charity being the

taken with a view to inquire into the atrocious calumnies and persecutions to which the Jewish people resident in Damascus were subjected. That mission, through the perseverance and influence of



THE WORDSWORTH MEMORIAL WINDOW.

Master of the Rolls and the Lord Chief Justice for the time.

At the eastern gate is the porter's lodge, with a bell-turret. The principal building is fronted by a terrace, 560 feet in length.

The new Hospital was planned by Mr. Cockerell, the architect, with a school at each end, and accommodation for the chaplain. The plan of the edifice, as now erected, was adopted by succeeding governors, under the direction of Mr. John Noble, of London. The premises were built by Mr. George Thompson, of Woodbridge. The inmates of the Hospital are elected by the Perpetual Curate of Woodbridge and the two churchwardens. The following are the stipends:—The Minister, £100 per annum; Principal, £80; two Churchwardens, each, £25; twenty-eight men, each, £25; four nurses, each, £20.

The expenditure in Woodbridge is about £1500 per annum, inclusive of clothing, coals, medical attendance, &c., to the inmates.

Adjoining the Hospital is a cemetery, with an ornamental brick and stone entrance; over which is inscribed "Blessed are the dead," &c.

The grounds in the front of the edifice are tastefully laid out, and form an agreeable promenade, which is open daily to the public.

The cost of rebuilding the Hospital has been about £27,000. Woodbridge rejoices in memorials of so munificent a benefactor as Thomas Seckford; among which is a portrait of the worthy Master, engraved in 1792: he wears the conical hat, ruff, and general costume of the period. A medal has also been struck, bearing on the obverse the effigies of Seckford; and, on the reverse, his arms, with this legend—ORATIONES. ET. ELEMOS. ASCENDUNT. IN. MEMORIAM. CORAM. DEO.

MR. SHERIFF WIRE.

DAVID WILLIAMS WIRE, Alderman and Sheriff of London and Middlesex, has long been associated with the progressive party in the metropolis. Distinguished for his earnest and enthusiastic eloquence, he soon became prominent as the advocate of Catholic and Slave Emancipation, of Parliamentary Law, and Financial Reforms, of the Repeal of the Corn-laws, and Reform of the Corporations of England. He has ever been a steady supporter of the principle that "religious opinions should never bear against the enjoyment of civil rights;" while his devotion to the cause of education and his liberality in supporting charitable institutions, have made him a man of note among the Non-conformist body of Dissenters, of which he is a member. He was born at Colchester, and, we believe, is of Scottish descent, the family name being originally Weir. But, as his peculiar qualities have been very graphically described by the Recorder of London when presenting the Sheriffs to the Curator Baron at Westminster, we cannot better conclude this short notice than by adopting the language of the learned gentleman:—

"When, my Lord, I present to you, in the first place, Mr. Alderman Wire, as senior Sheriff, I believe I am presenting to your notice a gentleman who is not unknown to your Lordship, and who is and has been connected with the profession to which your Lordship and myself belong. Mr. Alderman Wire, by industry, intelligence, and professional ability, has raised himself to the proud position which he now occupies. At an early age he entered the profession of the law as a clerk in the city of London, and for more than thirty years has been connected with the firm of which he is now the head. For a long time he was a clerk in the office of the firm, but from his diligence and talent ultimately was articled, and became a partner, and subsequently head of the firm. In 1833, he was elected a member of the Common Council for the ward of Walbrook, in which position he remained for sixteen years, to the great satisfaction of his constituents; and in which, from his industry, his business habits, and his eloquence, he commanded the attention and admiration of the inhabitants. During this long period he was conspicuous in the promotion of everything which had for its aim the objects of charity and benevolence and the advancement of the happiness and comfort of his fellow-citizens. Mr. Alderman Wire, during the period I have mentioned, was six times elected to the office of Under Sheriff—an office which he has discharged with much ability. In 1840 he was selected, from amidst many competitors, by Sir Moses Montefiore, Bart., to accompany him on his benevolent mission to the East, under-



NEW SECKFORD HOSPITAL, AT WOODBRIDGE.



MR. SHERIFF WIRE.—FROM A DAGUERRETYPE BY BEARD.

Sir Moses Montefiore, was eminently satisfactory; the calumnies were disproved; such of the prisoners as had survived the cruelties to which they had been exposed were liberated and accompanied to their homes with marks of honour; their persecutors were disgraced and punished; and Sir Moses Montefiore had the great satisfaction of obtaining from his late Highness Mohammed Ali, the Pacha of Egypt, and also from the Sultan, at Constantinople, a decree placing the Jewish people in the dominions of Egypt and Turkey upon a footing with the most favoured subjects of those countries. Subsequently, in 1851, he was nominated, at a meeting of the merchants, bankers, and traders of the City, held at the Mansion-house, joint secretary with his friend the Rev. S. R. Cattley, of the City Committee for the promotion of the Great Industrial Exhibition, and in that capacity he succeeded in gathering a large sum of money, and otherwise materially promoting the success of that national undertaking. In the same year, 1851, on the retirement of Mr. Alderman Gibbs from the ward of Walbrook, Mr. Wire was unanimously elected Alderman of that ward, and thus raised by the approbation of its inhabitants to the position of one of the magistrates of the City of London. And I have the pleasure to state to your Lordship that he has since performed the duties of his office to the satisfaction of his fellow-citizens, and he may fairly challenge a comparison with any magistrate who has discharged his duties with punctuality, fidelity, and impartiality. Under these circumstances, and after such repeated trials of his capacity, he has been elected by the livery to the responsible office of Sheriff, and it only remains for me to introduce him to you for the approbation of the Crown, to fill the office to which his brother citizens have appointed him."

NEW CHURCH OF ST. MARY, THUNDRIDGE, HERTS.

THIS Church, the consecration of which was recorded in our Journal of last week, is an interesting specimen of ecclesiastical architecture, with a most advantageous position.

The sacred edifice is designed in the Decorated style. In plan it consists of a nave, 57 feet long by 25 feet wide; a western tower, containing four bells, with solid parapet; and a stair-turret at one of the angles. The chancel is 27 feet long by 20 feet wide; and there is a vestry, separated from the chancel on the north side by a perforated ornamental screen. The south porch has some picturesque open-timber work. The roofs are of open timbers, stained; but the entire fittings are of wainscot. The nave and chancel are paved with Staffordshire red and black tiles; and the Communion space is floored with appropriate encaustic tiles. The pews, or rather seats, are open—a rail being in the place of the inconvenient door ordinarily seen in churches. The pulpit is of oak. The windows are wholly filled with Powell's ornamental quarries; and the east window is additionally enriched by medallions, representing the Birth, Dedication, Crucifixion, and Ascension of the Saviour. The walls are faced with Kentish rag-stone. The roofs are covered with plain tiles, with ornamental cresting.

The cost of erection was between £3000 and £4000; and the total cost, including building, endowment, and compensation to the Vicar of Ware, has been about £9000; the whole of which has been defrayed by Mr. Hanbury, of Poles, near Ware.

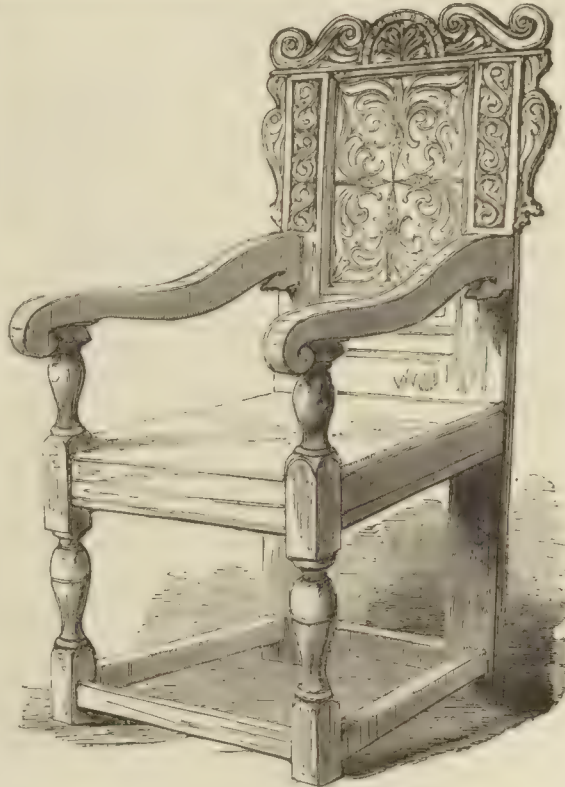
The architect of the Church is Mr. B. Ferrey, of London. The organ, which is a very fine instrument, and of considerable power, was built by Mr. Bishop, at a cost of £200.

THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

PROBISHER'S CHAIR.—THE NORTH-WEST PASSAGE.

The present Session of the Royal Geographical Society commenced on Tuesday evening, in the rooms, Regent-street, and was attended by a larger company than ever witnessed before. Amongst the visitors were Sir H. Holland, Sir R. H. Dukenfield, Bart., Colonel Campbell, General Sandwith, Lieut.-General Sir Charles Pasley, G.C.B., Colonel Putlock, Colonel Steele, Sir B. Outram, Sir W. Parish, Sir Fred. Nicholson, Bart., Sir E. N. Buxton, Bart., the Earl of Sheffield, Lieut. Cresswell, Mr. B. Oliveira, M.P., Dr. Hodgkin, Admiral Bowles, Captains Beechey, Bennett, Fitzroy, and Inglefield, &c.

Sir Roderick Murchison, on taking the chair, apologised for the absence of Lord Ellesmere, who regretted his being unable to attend that evening. The President said that he had to announce that on their first meeting they had the unprecedented number of thirty candidates for



CHAIR OF SIR MARTIN PROBISHER.

admission. He was also gratified in stating that Lord Stanley had made a donation of a large portion of a library to this society. He then drew the attention of the society to a chair, formerly belonging to Admiral Sir Martin Probisher, (see the illustration), which had been sent to the society by Mr. Weld, accompanied by the following letter:—

"Somerset-house, Nov. 14, 1853.

"My dear Sir Roderick,—I think that the members of the Geographical Society will probably like to see a relic of one of our old Arctic worthies, who devoted many years of his life in gallant though unsuccessful attempts to discover the North-West Passage. It is Admiral Sir Martin Probisher's arm-chair, which has recently come into my possession by purchase, and which formed a portion of his furniture in Altoff's Hall, four miles from Wakefield, in Yorkshire. Sir Martin Probisher was, as you will remember, warmly patronised by Queen Elizabeth, who assisted him in his Arctic explorations by a grant of £4000 from her privy purse; and on his return from his third Arctic voyage, in 1578, further testified her approval of his labours by bestowing upon him Altoff's Hall, with its manor and grounds, which before sequestration belonged to the Abbey of Newland. The estate remained in Probisher's family until the time of Cromwell, when it came into the possession of the Ingrams, of Temple Newsome. The chair, the back of which is richly carved, bears the name of M. Probisher, cut in antique characters, with the date 1580, at which period he was, according to his biographers, enjoying the repose of his newly-acquired estate in his native county, having been born at Doncaster. Thus the chair in question is nearly three centuries old, and had it no other interest than its great age, it would, as an example of the furniture of the period when it was made, be curious. But, bearing in mind that it belonged to Probisher, one of our most enterprising and renowned navigators, who, when endeavours were made to dissuade him from engaging in the discovery of the North-West Passage, declared, 'It is the only thing in the world that is left yet undone, whereby a notable mind may be made famous



NEW CHURCH OF ST. MARY, THUNDRIDGE, HERTS.



RAILWAY UPON THE ROAD OF THE CHAMPS ELYSEES, AT PARIS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

and fortunate—this relic becomes peculiarly valuable, and cannot, I think, fail to be regarded with interest by the members of the Geographical Society. Believe me, my dear Sir Roderick, yours very sincerely, C. R. WELLS.

The thanks of the Society were then awarded to Mr. Weld.

The chairman next alluded to the North-West Passage; and said he despised those who asked the question, *est bono?* It was of great importance to the physics of the globe to have ascertained the fact, as the knowledge of it would throw great light on the nature and direction of oceanic currents, and the drift of the Polar ice. It was also most satisfactory to have proof that Sir John Franklin had not been lost, but that he had been in the Wellington Channel, where all the practical geographers who had examined the subject supposed that he had gone.

Captain Ingfield, at the call of the president, then rose to read a paper on the late important discovery of the North-West Passage by Captain McClure—the details of which have been fully given at “first hand” in the despatches of that gallant officer, already published. He stated that his opinion was that Franklin’s people were somewhere within the wide circle of Polynia, or the Polar region; that he had passed up Wellington Channel, perhaps with the view of returning through Lancaster Sound; that he had penetrated beyond the parallel of 80 degrees, and reached some land more moderate in its climate than regions to the farther south, and where, therefore, he might find an abundant supply of deer and musk oxen. If the ships had been lost, he thought some fragments must have drifted on the shores of Spitzbergen by the current that set continually in that direction. He could not renounce the hope that Captain Kennedy, in the *Isabel*, which was now at Valparaiso, about to go up Behring’s Strait, might be enabled to come back by Spitzbergen and Nova Zembla. If he had such a mild season as Barentz met with in 1596, he might be enabled to do this, accomplishing also the examination of the Siberian coast in a single season (Cheers).

The President said he was most anxious to hear what the gallant visitor, Lieut. Cresswell, had to offer on the subject.

Lieut. Cresswell, on rising, was received with much cheering. He said that, after the explanation that had been given by Captain Ingfield of the expedition, it had left him little to say; but he should be most happy to answer any questions that might be put to him. Were he to enter upon the subject, he could only go over the same ground that had already been trodden. He stated that in 1850 he sailed from England in the *Investigator*, in company with the *Enterprise*, in search of Sir John Franklin and his brave companions. He then very briefly related their progress from the Sandwich Islands, with frequent reference to a map explanatory

of their course—without which his description would be unintelligible. He generally briefly repeated the despatches of Captain McClure.

The President congratulated the British geographers on the fact with which they had been made acquainted—of the practical development of the existence of the North-West Passage which had been accomplished; and he could not help thinking that the gallant Lieutenant who had just sat down was of that sort of men by which so great a discovery would be accomplished. With regard to Captain McClure, he believed that there had been no officer since the time of Captain Cook who had written despatches that would be more indelibly impressed on the minds of all true Englishmen. By the discovery of this North-West Passage, they had proofs that Sir John Franklin had not gone in a western direction, as some persons were inclined to believe that he had done. If he had not gone west, he had not gone east; but, obedient to the instructions he had received, he believed that Franklin had gone boldly through Wellington Channel to the northward; for it was his (Sir R. Murchison’s) opinion—as it was that of all well-informed geographers—that it was in that direction, and in that direction only, he would eventually be found.

Mr. Peterman dwelt on the fact of the animals having been seen by Captain McClure going to the northward in winter, as strong evidence of a mild climate produced by a Polar Sea.

Captain Beechey said the sea between Spitzbergen and Nova Zembla had never yet been navigated neither Darentz nor any one else having succeeded in the attempt. No great expectations could be entertained in that direction, though he did not wish to discourage any expedition taking this course, inasmuch as we had now a few vessels, which we never had before. No great quantity of driftwood was ever found on the shores of Spitzbergen, and the sea was always frozen over during winter about Staremberg, though the water was excessively deep along the land. No doubt the Gulf Stream modified the climate to a certain degree, even in that high latitude; but, if this was the state of the coast of Spitzbergen, he thought there was little ground for expecting that the sea would not also be frozen at the Pole. With respect to the passage into the Polar Sea by Behring’s Strait, the Russians, under Baron Wrangel and others, had repeatedly tried to proceed from the coast of Siberia northward, but the difficulties have been found insurmountable.

Sir Roderick Murchison congratulated the society on the tone of the discussion, and expressed a hope that another expedition would be ordered to proceed for the purpose of exploring the seas round Spitzbergen, and thus settling this question.

In the course of the evening a letter, very picturesque and summary, from Captain McClure to his old shipmate, Captain Sir George Back, was read; but it contained no new fact.

This very interesting meeting (after thanking the chairman) broke up at eleven o’clock.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

LADY PANMURE.

MONTAGUE LADY PANMURE was the elder daughter of George, second Lord Abercromby, by his wife, the third daughter of the well-known Minister, Henry Dundas, first Viscount Melville. Lady Panmure was the wife of the Right Hon. Fox Maule, second and present Lord Panmure, to whom she was married, 4th April, 1831. Her Ladyship died on the 11th inst., at Pitfour Castle, Perthshire: she leaves no issue. In her own neighbourhood her Ladyship’s demise will be felt as a public loss, so generally and thoroughly was she loved and respected for her charity, benevolence, and other social virtues.

HARRIET, LADY POWER.

The death of this lady, in the 77th year of her age, occurred at Kiltane on the 1st inst. Lady Power was the relict of Sir John Power, Bart., of Kiltane, sister of Gervase Parker Bushe, Esq., and niece of the patriot, Henry Grattan. She herself was a star in the galaxy of beauty and fashion at the memorable period of the Kilkenny amateur theatricals. Lady Power leaves several sons and two daughters: of the former, the eldest is the present Sir John Power, Bart.; of the latter, the elder, Mary, is the wife of Wm. Fitzwilliam Burton, Esq.; and the younger, Frances, of John Power, Esq., of Gurteen.

ADMIRAL NESHAM.

ADMIRAL CHRISTOPHER JOHN WILLIAMS NESHAM died on the 5th instant, at Exmouth, at the advanced age of eighty-five. The gallant Admiral had resided for the last twenty years, on his own property, in Devonshire, and was universally venerated for his many virtues, and especially for his benevolence to the humbler classes. Admiral Nesham entered the Royal Navy in January, 1782, as first class volunteer, on board the *Juno* frigate; and in June in the following year was present, as midshipman, in the action fought between Sir Edward Hughes and M. de Suffrin, off Cuddalore. During his early course, Nesham saved, in a remarkable manner, the life of a Frenchman. The gallant sailor, when a midshipman, was travelling in France, and happened to be at Vernon in 1789; a revolutionary *emee* arose during his stay, and Nesham met in the streets a ferocious sans-culotte mob dragging a French gentleman, named Plauter, to a lamp-post, to hang him up. Middy, regardless of danger, flew at once to the rescue: he threw himself between the victim and the sanguinary crowd, and declared the murder, if done at all, should be a double one, for the man they were going to kill in so cowardly a way was as innocent as himself, and he would not quit him but with his life. The mob, struck with the chivalrous valour of the act, paused and relented. They cheered the Englishman, and thus M. Plauter got the opportunity of making an instantaneous and effectual escape. In reward for this piece of heroism, the Assembly-General of the Representatives of the Commons of Paris, on the 13th January, 1790, decreed a civic crown to him who had saved the life of a citizen; this, and a uniform sword of the National Guard were accordingly presented to Nesham; and the proceedings were ordered to be printed and distributed in the sixty districts.

Admiral Nesham’s naval career was fully equal to his early promise: he rose with distinction through all the grades, and he received the war medal in 1849, with two bars, for Camperdown and Martinique. In him we lose a bold and generous British seaman as ever won honours in the service.

BICKHAM ESCOTT, ESQ.

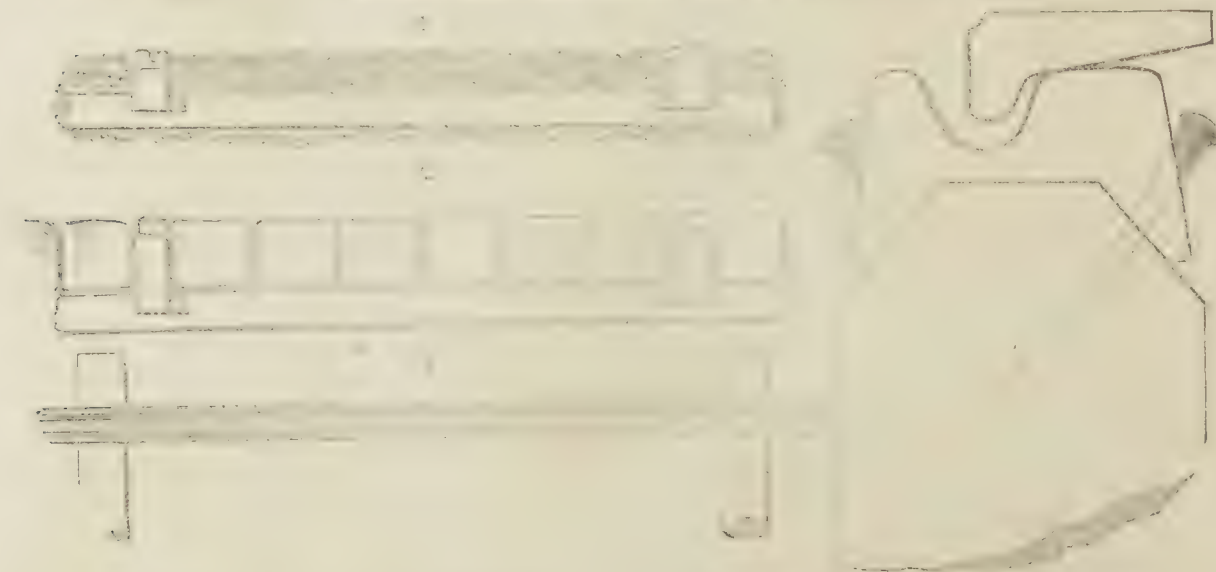
MR. BICKHAM ESCOTT, a well-known politician, was the son of the late Rev. T. Sweet Escott, of Harrow House, Somersetshire, and was born in the year 1800. He received his earlier education at Winchester school, and thence proceeded to Christchurch, Oxford, where he took high honours. He was an enlightened patron of the arts, and himself a painter of no mean pretensions. He married, the 26th July, 1825, Anne, youngest daughter of the Rev. Walker Trevelyan, and by her, who survives him, has left an only child, a daughter.

From an early period of his life, Mr. Escott took an active part in politics, in connection with the party, and in conformity with the principles of the late Sir Robert Peel. On these principles he twice contested the representation of West Somersetshire—once immediately before, and the second time after, the passing of the Reform Bill. In 1832, Mr. Escott unsuccessfully offered himself for the city of Westminster, in opposition to the present Lord Broughton, then Sir John Cam Hobhouse; and, in 1841, he was returned for Winchester. In Parliament, Mr. Escott was a fluent and clever speaker, and seldom failed to secure the marked attention of the House. His independence, too, and his position as a respected English country gentleman, gave a weight to what he said. Mr. Escott was distinguished, in his own country, Somersetshire, as an active and efficient magistrate. Mr. Escott died recently at his family mansion, Harrow House.

WILLS.

THE WILL OF LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR CHARLES JAMES NAPIER, G.C.B., was administered to on the 4th inst. by John Pitt Kennedy, Esq., one of the residuary legatees in trust—there being no executor appointed in the will. The personality alone in England was sworn under £20,000 (the estimate before given being incorrectly stated). He devised his Oakland estate, on the decease of Lady Napier, to his daughter Emily and her issue; and his funds in the United Kingdom and Pennsylvania, also, to his wife for life. His numerous specific bequests are of a peculiarly descriptive character; among others, he leaves an Ameer saog, which had belonged to the Conqueror of Sicily, to his daughter Emily, for her eldest son, Mr. Murdoch’s sword, with which the great Beelooch chief, Jan Mahomed, was slain; also the sword given to him by Lord Edenborough, he leaves to Major Murdoch. His favourite arms were those he had of his father, which are to be divided among his brothers, and in respect to which he observes—“I have used my father’s arms as he wished, and so have my brothers; and his ghost will rejoice in the fame of his sons.” His white cornelian ring (Hercules), given to him by his mother in 1807, and which was never once off his finger, he leaves to his wife and daughter Emily. On this he observes—“It was with him in every battle, and was only saved at Corunna, when made a prisoner, by his hand being so clotted with blood as to hide the ring.” His father’s cornelian ring, which he wore in battle, he leaves to his sisters and brothers, that it may be held by one who had seen it on the hand of their father, “whose rival in grandeur of body and mind, and virtue, neither they nor I have ever seen.” He leaves his journals and letter books to his brother William, with the hope, if anything is published, his own words may be used, and not frittered away.—The will of his youngest brother, Capt. Henry Edward Napier, R.N., F.R.S., who died on the 13th ult., was proved in London at the same time: effects sworn under £2000.—Probate of the will of the Right Hon. Alexander George Baron Saltoun, G.C.B. and G.C.H., of Philorth House, Aberdeen, Auchinroath, N.B., and of London, has been granted to Sir John Bayley, Bart., one of the executors; power reserved to L. H. Bayley, Esq. Effects in England sworn under £10,000. His property he has bequeathed in legacies to his nieces and other relatives and friends, and in annuities to all his servants.—The will of the Right Hon. Henry Richard Greville, Earl Brooke and Earl of Warwick, K.T., was proved by the present Earl, the son and only issue, and is the sole executor, to whom is devised Warwick Castle, the manors, and all other estates, real and personal, the personal being valued at £40,000.—The will of the late Earl of Oxford and Mortimer, Baron Harley, has also been proved.—The late Admiral the Right Hon. Sir George Cockburn, Bart., G.C.B., Admiral of the Fleet, Rear-Admiral of the United Kingdom, and Major-General of the Royal Marines, by his will, dated 9th October, 1852, bequeaths the sword presented to him by his late Majesty King William IV., having on one side of the hilt the Royal Arms, and on the other, those of the Baronet; also the gold-hilted sword presented to him by Admiral Lord Nelson, as well as the three pieces of plate presented to him by the officers under his command, to be held, on the demise of Lady Cockburn, and daughter, as heirlooms to the Baronetcy; and has devised his real estate in Lady Cockburn, and daughter, and her issue, and the personality in like manner—the latter sworn under £10,000. The executors are Lady Cockburn, Major-General Sir Francis Cockburn, the brother, and Sir Alexander James E. Cockburn, the nephew, of her Majesty’s late Attorney-General.

CHARITABLE BEQUESTS.—The late T. Barnard, Esq., of Bedford, banker, has bequeathed the following legacies, viz.:—£500 to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts; £200 to the Bedfordshire General Infirmary; and £500 to the Bedfordshire Branch Society for the Relief of the Widows and Orphans of Clergymen.



1. THE SYSTEM APPLIED TO MACADAMISED ROADS.
2. APPLICATION TO PAVED ROADS.

RAILWAYS UPON PUBLIC ROADS.—THE NEW PARISIAN OMNIBUS.

A NEW system of rails, which permits the establishment of railways upon ordinary roads, has just been applied in Paris. No one can as yet comprehend the immense services which may be rendered by this new locomotive agency, whether in respect of celerity of communication or the economy of time and money, as well to the centres of population which do not happen to be placed upon the great lines of railway, as in facilitating the interior transactions and communications of great cities. This new system is extremely simple in its conception, is of easy application, and not expensive; and the first experiments, in which a Correspondent in Paris has himself assisted, leave no doubt of its practicability and of the advantages of the new mode of conveyance.

A rail constructed upon this principle has been opened at Paris, from the Place de la Concorde as far as the Barrière de Passy—a length of about two miles and a half. This short run, along one of the side walks of the promenade of the Champs Elysées, will be extended by a curve of small radius to the left side of the highway of the Quai de Billy. It will continue along the footway of this quay until near the Pont d’Jena, where it crosses the road anew, and continues its progress in a right line, until it reaches the terminus. The construction of this line has not necessitated any operation in the way of levelling or earthwork. The rail is placed upon the level of the public road, all the undulations of which it consequently follows.

The new rail is a band of iron, hollowed something like a cart rut upon the upper surface, and forming a true furrow which receives the iron plate of the wheels. The outer lip of the rail is slightly rounded, in such a manner that the friction of the wheel is confined to a limited portion of the iron band. Wooden sleepers are placed transversely in the soil, at a distance of two metres apart (about 6 feet 6 inches). Wooden piles of the same dimensions are placed longitudinally for their support, in which they are fixed half way up, at the exact distance which ought to be preserved by the two lines of rails. These pieces of wood are prepared according to the outline given in the accompanying Illustration (No. 3). The rails are fitted into these sleepers, by means of iron bolts of a particular shape. The interval between the rails is not filled up by ballast and earthwork, as in the railways. It is sufficient to re-establish the pavement in its primitive state, as seen in Figures No. 1 and 2. The appearance of the rail is represented in the general plan of which Figure No. 4 represents a section.

It is to be remarked that the hollow of the rail can never be blocked up, either by stones, fragments of wood, or other materials, in consequence of its rounded form, which enables the iron guard (*chasse-pierre*) of the carriage easily to remove foreign bodies. The *chasse-pierre* is made in the form of a ploughshare, and throws aside any matters which it may raise from the hollow. The first experiments, however, showed that the action of the *chasse-pierre* added a considerable amount of friction; and it is in contemplation to replace it by brooms of special form and construction.

The new road is established upon a single line of rails; but towards the middle of its course there is provided the means of shunting the carriages which may meet *en route*. This is effected by means of a simple contrivance, which scarcely at all delays the circulation in the streets or the passage of the carriages upon the ordinary road. One of the “points” is fixed; the other, which determines the shunting of the carriage, moves upon a pivot, and is not more than one metre and a half in length. Either the hand or a stick suffices to put the points in action.

The carriages used in this new mode of locomotion are of handsome design, and are provided with every means of luxury and comfort. They are composed of an interior containing sixteen arm-chairs, and of a gallery outside, in which 24 persons may be received in extremely commodious seats or stalls. This gallery is reached by steps placed along the exterior sides of the carriage and guarded by a hand-rail. Upon the two faces of the vehicle, which has neither front nor hind, properly so called, are two platforms furnished with an elegant gallery, each of which will contain five passengers standing. Thus the number of persons who can find standing and sitting accommodation in the new vehicles is 60. There are carriages at fixed hours, and others which run at irregular periods according to the number of passengers who may present themselves. An excellent system of brakes enables the carriages to be stopped instantly, at whatever speed, without any risk of sending them off the line.

3. MODE OF FIXING THE SLEEPERS, ETC., OF THE RAIL.
4. SECTION OF THE RAIL, AND IRON PLATE OF THE WHEELS.

Our Illustration represents one of these carriages, drawn by two horses, driven tandem fashion. The first experiments were made in this manner; but experience proved that this system of traction left much to be desired, and it will probably be replaced by two horses driven abreast in the ordinary way.

From the speed obtained in the first experiments, it may be presumed that the system ought, in practice, to give an average speed of about 18 miles an hour, with sixty persons in the vehicle, and drawn by two horses. The cost of the establishment of the new roadway is about 30,000 francs (£1190) a mile. This first expense is amply compensated by the enormous reduction which the system effects in the current expenses of horses and men. For the line newly opened, two carriages, which only require four men (two coachmen and two conductors) and twelve horses, perform the same service which at the present moment requires seven omnibuses, fourteen men, and fifty-four horses.

The price of seats in these carriages will be 15 centimes (1½d.) for a “course” of five miles, when the line shall be carried out to its terminus at the Place de l’Hôtel de Ville. Intermediate stations will be provided at distances of a mile apart; and it is not doubted that the great advantages which this system of locomotion presents will bring it into general adoption in Paris, as well as in other great cities where the activity of inter-communication requires the utmost attainable speed. The new method, which bears the name of the inventor, M. Loubat, and which is carried out by two engineers, MM. Cassal and Martin, is patented in England and several other countries.

CAPTAIN MCCLURE, R.N.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

In the memoir of Captain McClure, in your Journal of Nov. 5th, a circumstance of his life was omitted, which, as his friend, I may venture to say he ever feels disposed to acknowledge with thankfulness. He was left without fortune, an orphan, at the early age of four years, and adopted by the late General Le Mesurier, Hereditary Governor of Alderney. The General was his godfather, and had him educated, and treated in every respect as a son. Captain McClure’s home, until he entered the Navy, was the Government-house, Alderney; and his first education, up to the age of twelve years, was directed by the Rev. Philip Hayes, of Guernsey, a kind and efficient master.

I remain, &c., W. R.

SIMPLE REMEDY FOR CHOLERA.

(To the Editor.)

Tver, Russia, October 12th (Old Style), 1853.

I regret much to find by your very valuable journal that that dreadful scourge Cholera has again made its appearance in England, and I here beg (with your kind permission) to offer to your numerous readers a cheap, simple, and what I have personally found to be, an efficacious remedy for what is generally considered to be the first symptoms of the above dreaded disease—viz., a glass of hot peppermint tea, with from half to a tea-spoonful of capsicum (bird or Cayenne pepper). After taking the above, the patient should be placed in a warm bed; and, if in fifteen minutes the pains are not removed, repeat the dose.

I may here add, that, during the time the cholera was at its height here, I was suddenly attacked with violent pains in the bowels, which I succeeded in removing after taking (in about thirty minutes) three doses of the above.

This was not the only case that came under my immediate knowledge during the trying time the pestilence was here among us; for I, on four different occasions in my own family, and likewise with others, had proof of its effects.

Your obedient servant, GEORGE WELLS.

THE BELL RUNG BY THE SEA.—In the Southampton dock there are three patent bell buoys, which the Mexican Government have ordered for a part of the coast in the Gulf of Mexico. They are enormous buoys with large bells, and their use is in thick and foggy weather when the buoys cannot be seen. The surging of the waves causes the bells to ring, which give information of the locality of the buoys. The apparatus is such also as to answer the purpose of life buoys, where several persons can be sheltered until they are rescued. Their use in enabling ships to enter channels in fogs is invaluable. The under part of the bell buoy is boat-shaped, only solid, and is admirably formed to roll about in the water to ring the bell that is attached to it. From the upper surface of the buoy a circular and tapering palisade is raised several feet in height, inside of which, towards the top, the bell is hung so as to ring at the slightest movement.

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THREE days succeeding that of the Sale of Ponies at Simon's Bath (of which an account appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for October 22) were devoted by us to exploring the wild beauties and agricultural capabilities of Exmoor; and it may be as well to give a brief description of this interesting district, which is so little known out of its immediate neighbourhood.

Exmoor, previous to 1818, was the property of the Crown, and leased to Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, who has an estate of a similar character close adjoining. He only used its wild pasture (at that time it was without roads) for breeding ponies and feeding Exmoor sheep. There are no traces of any population having ever existed on this forest since Roman times. The Romans are believed to have worked iron mines on the moor, which there is some talk of again opening.

Exmoor consists of 20,000 acres, on an elevation varying from 1000 to 1200 feet above the sea, of undulating table-land, divided by valleys, or "combes," through which the river Exe—which rises in one of its valleys—with its tributary, the Barle, forces a devious way, in the form of pleasant trout-streams, rattling over and among huge stones, and creeping through deep pools—a very angler's paradise. Like many similar districts in the Scotch Highlands, the resort of the red deer, it is called a forest, although trees—with the exception of some very insignificant plantations—are as rare as men. After riding all day with a party of explorers, one of them suddenly exclaimed, "Look, there is a man!" A similar expression escaped me when we came in sight of the first tree—a gnarled thorn, standing alone on the side of a valley.

The sides of the steep valleys, of which some include an acre, and others extend for miles, are usually covered with coarse herbage, heather, and bilberry plants, springing from a deep black or red soil—at certain spots a greener hue marks the site of the bogs which impede, and at times almost engulf the incautious horseman. These bogs are formed by springs, which, having been intercepted by a pan of sediment, and prevented from percolating through the soil, stagnate, and cause, at the same time, decay and vicious vegetation. They are seldom deep, and can usually be reclaimed by subsolling or otherwise breaking the

pan, and so drying the upper layers of bog. Bog-turf is largely employed on Exmoor as fuel. On other precipitous descents, winter torrents have washed away all the earth, and left avalanches of bare loose stones, called in the western dialect "crees." To descend these crees at a slapping pace in the course of a stag-hunt, requires no slight degree of nerve; but it is done, and is not so dangerous as it looks.

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It was while advancing over a great brown plain in the centre of the moor, with a deep valley on our left, that our young quick-eyed guide suddenly held up his hand, crying, "Don't stop—ride on, without seeming to take notice—there are the deer." A great red stag, lying on the brown grass, had sprung up, and was gazing on our party—too numerous and too brightly attired to be herdsmen, whom he would have allowed to pass without notice; behind him were clustered four does and a fawn: they stood still for some minutes watching our every movement, as we tried to approach them in a narrowing circle. Then the stag moved off slowly, with stately, easy, gliding steps, constantly turning back; the does preceded him: they reached the edge of the valley and disappeared. We galloped up and found that they had exchanged the slow retreat for a rapid flight, clearing every slight or suspicious obstacle with a grace, ease, and swiftness it was delightful to witness. In an incredibly short time they had disappeared, hidden by undulations, in the apparently flat moor.

These were one of the few herds still remaining on the forest. In a short time the wild deer of Exmoor will be a matter of tradition; and the hunt, which may be traced back to the time of Queen Elizabeth, will, if continued, descend to the "cart and calf" business. The efforts made, at great cost, by Mr. Knight for the preservation of the deer, do not seem to have been supported or appreciated by the gentlemen of the district.

A sight scarcely less interesting than the deer was afforded by a white pony mare, with her young stock (see Illustration)—consisting of a foal still sucking, a yearling, and a two-year-old—which we met in a valley of the Barle. The two-year-old had strayed away feeding, until alarmed by the cracking of our whips and the neighing of its dam, when it came galloping down a steep combe, neighing loudly, at head-long speed. It is thus these ponies learn their action and sure-footedness.

It was a district such as we had traversed—entirely wild, without inclosures, or roads, or fences—that came into the hands of the father of the present proprietor. He built a fence of forty miles around it, made roads, reclaimed a farm for his own use at Simon's Bath, introduced Highland cattle on the hills, and set up a considerable stud for improving the indigenous race of ponies, and for rearing full-sized horses. These improvements, on which an immense sum was sunk, were not profitable; and it is very doubtful whether any considerable improvements could have been prosecuted successfully, if railways had not brought better markets within reach of the district, as well as rendered it possible for a more enterprising race than the native Devonians to explore them. All the present tenants are strangers, chiefly from the midland and northern counties.

Since 1841 the management of the estate has been chiefly in the hands of the present proprietor, Mr. F. Knight, M.P.; and in 1844 he obtained the services, as resident agent and tenant of a large farm, of Mr. Robert Smith, formerly a celebrated breeder of pure Leicesters at Burley, in Rutlandshire—one of the council of the Royal Agricultural Society, and author of prize essays on sheep and on grass, which are held in high estimation by practical men. His writings are the result of his experience, instead of his farming being the result of other people's writings. At Burley he carried the Leicester sheep to perfec-



EXMOOR PONY AND YOUNG STOCK.

tion, and at his sale, previous to removing to Exmoor, he realised twelve hundred guineas for sixty rams. He is in fact a farmer of the modern school, who, bred to agriculture from his earliest years among the Lincolnshire men, has found it worth while to study earnestly the science and theory of his profession. Thus prepared, he has not made the mistake of trying to transplant the Lincolnshire system wholesale to Exmoor, but only such parts of it as are suitable to the soil and climate. For instance, after careful observation and experiment, he has come to the conclusion that the indigenous horned Exmoor sheep is as good as any for the moors—perhaps better—but that it needs the improvement which is the result of careful selection of the best-shaped animals of both sexes. In a few years we shall see whether he can be as successful with Exmoors as with Leicesters. We like the man who deals with what is to hand instead of beginning by wholesale destruction.

We have engraved a very exact portrait of a ram, eighteen months old, considered by Mr. Smith the best of his lot up to the present time. The Exmoor sheep, in its unimproved state, is a compact, hardy animal, ranging from 12 lbs. to 15 lbs. a quarter. Hill-fed wethers yield from 3 lbs. to 5 lbs. of wool, not so fine as Cheviot, but rather heavier. Both meat and wool are increased in quantity when the flocks are brought from the wild hills to the cultivated ground, which is now steadily extending over the forest.

Under the old system, which has been in operation on the hills adjoining Exmoor for a period beyond the memory of living men, the wool of sheep raised at the least expense, as in Australia, was the chief object of the hill farmer, and the mutton was a secondary consideration. The increase of markets, and the extension of means of conveyance, have produced and are producing some changes in this respect. Each parish in the hill district is entitled to pasture on the hills during the summer, in proportion to the extent of the occupation of each farmer, and the number he can keep during the winter. There was, therefore, every inducement to overstock land. There are certain mustering days, when each hill farmer's share of the common pasture is settled, and his sheep distinguished by a mark, and counted. At these periods many expedients are resorted to for the purpose of extending rights of pasture. The result is, that sheep are during the winter deteriorated by overstocking. These rights of pasture on common land appertaining to valley parishes have led to keeping wether sheep for the sake of their wool only, up to five, and even seven years old. As it was each farmer's interest to keep as many sheep as possible, he killed none when meat was cheap. But improved knowledge of mutual interests has led to measures for limiting this pastoral communism, and the high price of mutton has caused great slaughter among the five-year-old wethers, a delicacy rarely to be found in the other districts of England. These old wethers are kept on wild land all the year round, whilst ewes and young stock are fed on the enclosed improved land. The hill district may be considered chiefly a breeding district.

Under Mr. Robert Smith's management, the attempt to hold the Exmoor estate in hand has been discontinued. The Highland cattle which would not weather the winter without artificial food, have been superseded by the improved Exmoor ponies and sheep; while in summer cattle and sheep are taken on to feed from the neighbouring farmers at a poll rent; and in the most eligible situations, up to the present time, some fourteen farms have been carved out, provided with suitable buildings. Of these at present one only is unlet, and more are in contemplation, not only of 500 acres and upwards, but in narrow valleys of ten and twelve acres, with a right of pasture. It is intended, too, that every cottage shall have a cow's grass. These farms, with the exception of two founded by the first proprietor, have been let in a completely wild state; and offer examples of what may be effected by a wise adoption of the principle of tenant-right.

The mode of reclaiming moor land, which has been found most efficacious, is to burn the turf, and apply two tons and a half of lime per acre. This lime is brought a distance of twelve miles, and costs £1 per ton. Lime of a less suitable quality, as ascertained by trial in the laboratory, can be had within three miles. Where the soil is peaty, and the bog not too deep, it is subsoiled. This operation breaks the crust or sediment; the moisture percolates through; and the peat becomes dry and cultivable.

Turnips usually form the first crop sown on the flat. The ashes are found to start the turnips sufficiently without other manure. The turnips are eaten off by sheep during the winter. In fine weather they are eaten off on the ground; in stormy weather the sheep are put on a grass field, and turnips are thrown to them.

The turnips are succeeded by seeds. The best mixture is found to be clover, Timothy-grass, and Italian rye-grass. Timothy and Italian rye-grass flourish on all new soils; and the more recently broken-up is so full of vegetable matter, that the latter is not found to rob the soil too much. The Italian grass runs up early for the lambs; the Timothy-grass follows, takes up the running, and carries the feed through the summer. These artificial grasses afford good pasture for two, three, or four years, when the land is ploughed up, and a crop of oats taken; then follow turnips again, and then seeds. The second crop of turnips is supported by farm-yard manure, manufactured by tying up beasts during the winter nights. Manure is also applied to seeds of the second year.

The seeds make a good preparation for the oat crop of the following year, by a certain extent exhausting the newly broken-up soil, which would otherwise be too rich, and, combined with the humid climate, would be liable to grow all straw and no grain. With these precautions, the oat crops are very satisfactory; but wheat rarely answers, and ought never to be attempted on the level of Exmoor in this latitude.

It is observed, in reclaiming, that the brown loam seldom requires draining. The black soil, when drained and limed, is the best for roots and grasses. Wherever the beautiful bilberry shrubs grow, there the best land is found.

All the farms on Exmoor are store-farms, with some dairies. The cattle most in favour, and deservedly, are the Devons, which can be fed to great advantage on the moor in summer, and on the reclaimed land in winter. These farms vary in extent from 500 acres to 2000 acres. The 2000 acre farm is occupied as a Scotch sheep farm, after the plan of the Highlands, with flocks of Cheviots and blackfaced sheep. It is well known that the Cheviots thrive best where the grass is green; the blackfaced will do where there is little but heather. This tenant, who has Scotch shepherds, Scotch collies, is endeavouring to introduce the Scotch system of selling off his lambs every year in the autumn. The total ignorance of the surrounding people of the existence of any sheep except their own native breeds is a great obstacle to this plan; but, if he succeed, it will be a capital thing for the county.

The other farms are held by farmers from Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Derbyshire, and Dorsetshire; and on them may be found the farming systems of all those counties.

These notes have extended so far that I cannot say what I wished; but I must not conclude without a word about the "catch meadows," which Mr. Robert Smith has contrived to carry out with an economy, perfection, and success before unknown. A report of these meadows will be found in the second part of the "Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society for 1851," vol. 12.

The improved water-meadow system has been copied by two of the tenants: one a Leicestershire man, whose farm was all rough when he took it; and the other who cultivates on the Dorset style, and occupies one of the two old farms of the present landlord.

We had hoped to have a day's wild stag hunting, but the Hunt Committee had had the incredible barbarity to catch a wild deer, put him in a cart, and carry him to the other side of the county. However, we had a few runs with a scratch pack of harriers, kept by our host, after stout moorland hares. The dandy school, who revel in descriptions of coats and waistcoats, boots and breeches, and who pretend that there is no sport without an outfit which is only within the reach of a man with ten thousand a year, would no doubt have been extremely disgusted with the whole affair. For my part, I enjoyed rising at five o'clock in the morning and hunting puss up to her form (instead of paying a shilling to a boy to turn her out) with six couples, giving tongue most melodiously. Then viewing her away, and rattling across the crispy brown moor, spluttering through bogs with a loose rein, in lunatic enjoyment, until we checked at the edge of a deep "combe." Then, when the old yellow Southerner challenged, and our young host cheered him with "Bark to Reveller, bark!" to hear the challenge and the cheer re-echoed again from the opposite cliff; and as the little pack in full cry again took up the running, and scaled the steep ascent, to see our young huntsman, bred in these hills, go rattling down the valleys, and to follow by instinct under a vague idea, not unmixed with nervous apprehensions of the consequences of a slip, that what one could do, two could. All this was vastly exciting and amusing, and, in a word, decidedly jolly. So with many facts, some new ideas, and a fine stock of health from a week of open air, I bade farewell to my hospitable hosts and to romantic Exmoor.

S. S.

On the remonstrance of the Swiss Federal Council, the Austrian Government has modified its decree against the import of corn from Lombardy, and consented to allow certain quantities to be exported to the Grisons, according to the existing treaties.

CORPORATION MANAGEMENT IN THE CITY OF LONDON.

The plot thickens. Independent members of the Corporation have been constrained to admit the general accuracy of the accusation made in the examination of Mr. Acland. Mr. Powles, of the London Docks, has satisfactorily shown that the management of the River by the Navigation Committee, is by no means worthy this great metropolis. He alleges that the men are unacquainted with the duties they have to perform, and are entirely ruled by the Harbour-Master; while Mr. Bennoch graphically describes their examination of a pile—the projection of a pier, or other comparatively insignificant matter; then, pleased with their day's work, gracefully gliding down the dirty river, stopping at Greenwich or Blackwall, and, with whitebait and champagne, endeavouring to overcome the wear and tear consequent on the performance of their arduous labours. He exposes the constitution of committees, and the appointment of chairman, as leading frequently to the selection of the least competent person to preside over their meetings, merely because his time is of no value to himself, and, probably, to nobody else. Thus, whatever may be the merits of the Corporation, as it now exists—and they have yet to be shown—it is evident that the responsible men occupy places to which neither education, merit, nor commercial position entitles them.

It is also manifest, from the evidence of Mr. Bennoch, that the allowances to committees "to make themselves comfortable," instead of attracting the men best qualified to undertake certain duties, have the contrary tendency, and prevent really respectable men having anything to do with a body so questionable. People have heard so frequently the bombastic toast of "PROSPERITY TO THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF LONDON"—the corporation of the greatest city of the greatest country on the face of the globe—that they begin to imagine there must be some truth in the often-repeated boast. But, it would now seem that the gentlemen of the Corporation, by their unwise appropriation of funds for purposes of feasting, have voluntarily brought upon themselves the reproach of the public, who never think of an Alderman, without having before their mind's eye the portrait of a turtle; nor of a Lord Mayor in his chains of office, without being reminded of a fatted turkey, garnished with links of sausages.

Mr. Elliott, another member of the Common Council, endeavoured to show that the greatest abuse of the Corporation existed in the combining magisterial with aldermanic functions. We cannot see that he proved his case, and shall abstain from any opinion until additional evidence is before the public. We have yet to learn that any complaint, beyond that of expense, has ever been made against the aldermen as magistrates. We are rather of opinion that a shrewd and intelligent man of business will, in the majority of cases, come nearer to the truth in regard to substantial justice than a man who looks at every case through the spectacles of law. Indeed, it is recorded of a merely legal magistrate, that his great difficulty in administering justice was that of forgetting naked, uncompromising law, and thinking only of justice and equity.

It is not our intention to follow in the train of those who are howling or barking at the heels of the Corporation; but to calmly look at the several matters as they arise, and while criticising fearlessly, we shall endeavour to suggest such amendments as may lead to a better and wiser system of municipal government.

THE CITY CORPORATION COMMISSION.

On Friday last, as stated in our late edition, Mr. Pulling, the barrister, was the only witness examined: his evidence bore chiefly upon the nature of the relations of the Corporation of London to the State and to the trade of the City, and upon the order and government of the Corporation.

On Tuesday, Mr. John Remington Mills, silk manufacturer, gave evidence as to the election of Sheriff, and showed how he had been mulcted in £500 for refusing to serve. Since 1830, it was resolved that the fines should be devoted to improvements in charities and other purposes, but they have never been so applied.—Mr. Powles, merchant, and secretary of the London Dock Company, stated that those who were appointed to superintend the navigation of the river were not qualified to do so by their previous occupations.—Mr. Francis Bennoch, who was some time before the Commissioners, detailed various improvements to be made in corporate matters. He pointed out the mode of getting notices inserted in the newspapers by the corporate officers; and also said that many persons were appointed to committees who were quite unfit for their duties.—Mr. G. H. Elliott, a member of the Common Council for five years, said he thought the wants of the City had overgrown the Corporation, and an alteration, therefore, had become necessary. He was in favour of a paid magistracy.

On Wednesday, Mr. John Cattley, a merchant in the East India trade, and Chairman of the London Dock Company, gave evidence as to the valuable services of the Aldermen as magistrates: he should prefer them to a paid magistracy; was also in favour of a chamber of commerce.—Mr. James T. Gooden was examined on the subject of the conservatory of the Thames and the Medway.—Mr. Sheriff Wallis gave evidence, at some length, of the manner in which the election of Sheriffs was conducted, and of the expenses. He would abolish the magisterial duties of the Aldermen, but would appoint four stipendiary magistrates for the City police-courts; and he was for severing the connection between the City and the borough of Southwark.—Mr. Hyde (of Fleet-street) and Mr. Jones (of the Strand) were examined on matters relating to the liverymen and freemen.

On Thursday Mr. Acland presented a petition from Croydon, complaining of the heavy and unjust toll-dues levied by the City on coal.—Mr. Keeling (of the firm of Keeling and Hunt) bore evidence of the unfairness of the meterage and the "Lord Mayor's Dues," both of which ought to be abolished.—Mr. Hales, largely engaged in the corn trade, explained the operation of the meterage system so far as it applied to corn, and stated that the Corn-Exchange had memorialised the Lord Mayor to render the mode of collecting the meterage uniform, if the impost could not be altogether abolished.—This point engaged the attention of the Commissioners the whole of the day.

A MEDAL OF LORD GEORGE BENTINCK has just been ably executed by Mr. Wyon, and is now in course of distribution among the subscribers to the Bentinck Testimonial. The obverse of the medal bears the head of the distinguished statesman—an excellent likeness—with the legend, "Lord George Bentinck: born 1802, died 1848." Upon the reverse is inscribed—"Brave, earnest, generous, unselfish, true, he won the confidence and riveted the attachment of a great party, which his patriotism had inspired with courage, and his self-devotion had animated with zeal."

SURREY ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—We are glad to learn that the formation of this society is progressing satisfactorily. Upwards of 170 members have already been enrolled; and several contributions of books have been received towards a proposed library; besides a collection of nearly 600 topographical prints relating to the county. The council are actively completing their plan, and propose holding an inaugural general meeting in Southwark, in January next. Applications for information are to be made to Mr. J. B. Webb, honorary secretary, 46, Addison-road, North, Notting-hill.

TENANTS' TESTIMONIAL.—On Thursday week John Harvey, Esq., of Ickwellbury, Bedfordshire, and the owner of extensive estates in Finsbury and Blaxton, was presented by his Finsbury tenantry with a beautiful silver writing-stand; and his son, John Andley Harvey, infant son and heir, was at the same time presented with a handsome silver cup. After the presentation, the tenantry were entertained by Mr. Harvey at dinner, when several appropriate toasts were drunk.

IRELAND.

His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant and the Countess of St. Germans, have been on a visit to Woodstock, the seat of the Right Hon. William Tighe, in the county of Kilkenny; and on their return to Dublin, the people of the "fair city" of Kilkenny, gave their Excellencies an extremely cordial reception. It having been known that the Vice-regal party was to return via Kilkenny, the Corporation was called together, and presented an address to His Excellency, at the railway terminus.

BUSINESS affairs in Ireland present a more cheerful aspect this week, despite the increasingly warlike character of the foreign news. There has been a good business done in produce, and prices are more encouraging. The corn market has not further advanced, and shares have fairly held their ground. The bank returns are also highly gratifying, and the accounts from the country are good. Altogether, we can report a very marked improvement from last week.

IRISH LANDED PROPERTY CHANGING OWNERS.—It would seem as if the whole land of Ireland was changing owners. Property worth more than a quarter of a million of money was sold on Friday last by the Encumbered Estates Commissioners. The estate in Wexford, of Mr. Somerset R. Maxwell, and the Tipperary property of Lord Glengall, were sold: they brought entirely £279,075. The average rate obtained for the Tipperary estates was twenty-four years' purchase. And on Tuesday the very extensive estates of the Earl of Mornington, in the King's and Queen's Counties, and the counties of Meath, Dublin, Cavan, and Westmeath, were sold. This splendid property, yielding a net annual income of £9,683, was divided into sixty-four lots. There was much competition, and in some instances a few of the lots brought nearly thirty years' purchase. The gross sum realised by the sale was £201,835—equal to twenty-two and a half years' purchase on the net rental.

NEWS FOR BIBLIOPOLISTS.—The splendid library of the late F. W. Conway, Esq., proprietor of the *Dublin Evening Post*, is about to be sold by public auction. The collection thus about to be scattered consists of upwards of 26,000 volumes, and there are few works in it that are not worthy of a line in a catalogue in any public library. This library contains a great number of exceedingly rare books of all European languages, from the productions of Gutenberg and Caxton, from the "Nuremberg Chronicle" and the *Boke of Cashell*, to the richest illustrated works of the present year. Of Shakespeare alone this collection shows upwards of eighty editions! It will, of course, require some weeks to arrange for sale.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

SHREWSBURY RACES.—TUESDAY.

Abbey Stakes.—Romeo, 1. Sabra, 2.
Shrewsbury Handicap.—Jack Leeming, 2. Lough Bawn, 2.
Astley House Stakes.—Middleborough, 1. The Gem, 2.
Column Handicap.—Catherine Farr, 1. Annie Sutherland, 2.
The Racing Plate was won, in three heats, by Eccentricity.

WEDNESDAY.

Copeland Handicap.—The Merry Monk, 1. Topsy, 2.
Monkmoor Stakes.—Tonic, 1. Grey Tommy, 2.
Severn Stakes.—Jubbe, 1. Inder, 2.
Grand Annual Steeple-chase.—Bourton, 1. The General, 2.
Hurdle Race.—Star of England, 1. Timothy, 2.

THURSDAY.

Handicap Sweepstakes.—Alonso, 1. Candlewick, 2.
Scurry Stakes.—Voucher, 1. Windsucker, 2.
Two-year-old Stakes.—Pope Joan, 1. Boddicot, 2.
Selling Steeple-chase.—Sir Philip, 1. Timothy, 2.
Short's Stakes.—Hyacinth, 1. Pope Joan, 2.
Match.—Warwick beat Lamartine.

CREWE RACES.—THURSDAY.

Edleston Steeple-chase.—Royal Blue, 1. Slashing Painter, 2.
Annual Steeple-chase.—Melon, 1. Topsy, 2.

TATTERSALL'S.—THURSDAY EVENING.

Only half-a-dozen members present: no business transacted.

MUNIFICENT DONATION.—Her Majesty the Queen, hearing of the very heavy drain upon the funds of the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society, consequent upon the late disastrous gales, has, with her accustomed liberality, presented this valuable institution with the sum of 100 guineas.

LORD EGLINTON AND ALFRED TENNYSON.—The election of Lord Rector for Glasgow University took place on Tuesday. The Liberal Association had resolved to turn Lord Eglinton out before his term of office had expired, bringing forward Alfred Tennyson, the Poet Laureate, to oppose him. The result of the voting was as follows:—For Lord Eglinton—Glothiana, 89; Loudoniana, 28; Transforthana, 27; Rothesiana, 78: total, 222. For Tennyson—Glothiana, 91; Loudoniana, 28; Transforthana, 28; Rothesiana, 32: total, 179. It will be seen that the votes were equal in the Loudoniana nation; but as the Procurator gave his casting vote in favour of Lord Eglinton, his Lordship was placed on an equality as to the number of "nations" with Mr. Tennyson. The Vice-Rector, Dr. Rainy, then gave his casting vote for his Lordship, giving him a majority of one nation. Lord Eglinton was accordingly re-elected.

TYNEMOUTH BRIBERY.—On Wednesday, the Commissioners appointed by the Crown to inquire into the corrupt practices in the Parliamentary elections at this place opened their court, in the Townhall, Saville. The names of the gentlemen are Henry Davison, Esq. (Chief Commissioner), John Harrell, Esq., and James Vaughan, Esq. A great number of summonses have been issued, and Mr. Granville Somerset, the secretary, has been down a week getting up the evidence.

NEW TELEGRAPH COMPANY.—A company has been formed called the Universal Telegraph Company, for the purpose of affording throughout the United Kingdom great increased advantages of telegraphic communication, at a much reduced charge. This company contemplates establishing district offices upon the principle of radiation. The message is written by the telegraph instrument itself, and simultaneous transmission of the message, with the greatest accuracy, to all or any number of the radiating stations. This is effected by the patent automaton repeater, by means of which an unlimited number of towns may be communicated with by the same electric touch. The proposed tariff of charge is a uniform rate of 6d. per message not exceeding twenty words to any of the company's stations, and one halfpenny for each additional word.

SINGULAR AFFAIR.—After the events of 1848, a M. P., of Paris, left that city for some days, and went to Belgium, carrying with him a large sum which he wished to put in a place of safety. He went into the wood of La Cambre, and buried in a retired spot 50,000fr. in gold coins of the reign of Louis Philippe, and 4000fr. in other coins. Five years elapsed before M. P. returned to Belgium, and a few days since he went into the wood to search for his treasure. While rummaging about, he was seen by a gendarme, who demanded what he was doing, and, on his being taken before the proper authorities, he was, after explanation, allowed to continue his researches, which ultimately ended in his finding his money intact. The money has been lodged in the hands of the director of the domains to wait further enquiries.

LEGAL EDUCATION.—At the public examination of the students of the Inns of Court, held at Lincoln's-inn-hall, last week, the studentship of fifty guineas per annum, to continue for a period of three years, was awarded to Mr. James Charles Mathew, of Lincoln's-inn. The certificate of honour, as having passed the second best examination, was obtained by Mr. Herbert Coleridge, also a student of Lincoln's-inn.

THE Surrey Magistrates have voted the sum of £50 to the London Reformatory Institution for Adult Male Criminals in Westminster; that admirable institution having hitherto voluntarily received prisoners from Wandsworth House of Correction at the expiration of their sentence.

SINGULAR ESCAPE.—An extraordinary escape happened at the Tiverton road station of the Bristol and Exeter Railway last week. The horses of a gentleman's carriage were frightened by the whistle of an approaching train. In an instant they broke through the railing which protected the embankment of the railway, and horses, carriage, and driver were precipitated over a height of forty feet. The guard of the train, which had arrived, witnessed the accident, and at once concluded that both men and horses were dashed to pieces; but, it was found that they had fallen to the bottom without sustaining the least injury—the only thing damaged being one of the traces.

GENERAL POST-OFFICE, Oct., 1853.—In consequence of the great difficulty and expense attending the transmission of heavy packets across the Isthmus of Suez, it has become necessary to rescind the regulations under which printed books, magazines, reviews, and pamphlets, addressed to the East Indies, Ceylon, Mauritius, and New South Wales, are at present forwarded, via Egypt, and to restrict the conveyance of such books, &c., to the direct mail packets proceeding to those places. In future, therefore, all books, and other printed publications, addressed to India, Ceylon, or Mauritius, intended to be forwarded through the post, under the privileges of the colonial book-post, will be conveyed by the contract mail-packets via the Cape of Good Hope, leaving Plymouth on the 15th of each month; and books, &c., for New South Wales will be sent by the contract packets despatched from this country once in two months—of the sailing of which notice is issued from time to time.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, NOV. 20.—26th Sunday after Trinity.
 MONDAY, 21.—Princess Royal born, 1840.
 TUESDAY, 22.—St. Cecilia.
 WEDNESDAY, 23.—St. Clement. First Balloon Ascent, 1782.
 THURSDAY, 24.—Archbishop Tillotson died, 1649.
 FRIDAY, 25.—St. Catherine. Michaelmas Term ends.
 SATURDAY, 26.—Dr. Watts died, 1748. Lord Lyttelton died, 1779.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 26.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
4 25	4 40	5 0	5 15	5 40	6 0	6 25
6 25	6 40	7 0	7 15	7 40	8 0	8 25

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. H.—Grisi made her first appearance on our opera-stage in 1834. She was then eighteen, and must now, therefore, be thirty-seven. Mario's first appearance in London was in 1839. We have no record of the date of his birth; but his age cannot exceed forty.
 T. S.—The extremes of cold experienced by Captain McClure and his party, at Mercy Bay, in January and February, 1853, were 62 and 65 degrees below zero (Fahrenheit), and not below freezing point.
 A PASSENGER, Jersey, is thanked for the Sketch of the *Dispatch* steamer. The subject was engraved in our Journal of October 29th.
 AMICUS.—Under the Corporation Acts the Mayor must be elected out of the Aldermen or Councillors of the borough, duly qualified to be such by estate. There appears no exception in the Corporation Statutes, allowing any parishioner to be elected.
 J. B.—A statute was passed in the last Session of Parliament, "to consolidate and amend the laws, and to grant additional facilities in relation to the purchase of Government annuities, through the medium of savings banks, and to make other provisions in respect thereof." The Act is the 16 & 17 Vic., cap. 45.
 M.—Apply at the Horse Guards.
 A SUBSCRIBER.—The husband of an heiress bears his wife arms on an escutcheon of pretence. After her decease the children take their mother's arms as a quartering. The crest of the wife's family is not allowed to the husband or children.
 AMICUS.—A cadetship cannot be purchased.

THE WAR OF TURKISH INDEPENDENCE.

Having despatched our own Artists and Correspondents both to Constantinople and to the Seat of War in Wallachia and Moldavia, we are enabled to announce as in preparation

A GRAND DOUBLE NUMBER

OF THE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,

Containing a full Account and exclusive

HISTORY OF THE PROGRESS OF EVENTS

ON

THE BANKS OF THE DANUBE.

Among other Illustrations will appear—

An Equestrian Portrait of the Seraskier, Omer Pacha.
 Portrait of Prince Gortschakoff, the Russian Commander.
 Portrait of Prince Menschikoff.
 The Attack on Oltenitza.
 The Passage of the Danube at Widdin by the Turkish Troops (Page block).
 The Battle of Bucharest (Page block).
 The Russians at Giurgevo.

Omer Pacha and his Staff.
 Views of Slatina, Kalafat, Turkai, &c.
 The Camp at Schumla.
 The Russian Headquarters at Bucharest.
 The Retreat of the Russians.
 Omer Pacha's Camp at Night.
 Rejoicings at Constantinople.
 Episodes of the War.
 Scenes in the Capital.
 &c., &c.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19th, 1853.

THE intelligence which we receive from the seat of war continues to be imperfect and incoherent, if not contradictory. The electric wires at Vienna are under the control of the Austrian Government; and, whenever the news transmitted to that capital is vague or doubtful, the Austrian Government contrives to give it a character favourable to the Russians before it is allowed to reach Paris and London. But hitherto it has been impossible for the Austrian Government, or any other disguised or open friend of Russia, to conceal or distort the more important of the events that have taken place in Wallachia since the masterly and successful passage of the Danube by Omer Pacha. Not only in that great operation, but in every encounter which the Turkish commander has either sought, or been forced to accept, the gallant Seraskier has proved himself to be the superior General. Whether the Russians have been taken by surprise, or whether their army, originally not so strong as it was reported to have been, and since decimated by fever and cholera, and re-decimated by desertion, has been unable to cope with the Turks, the fact remains the same—that victory as yet has declared against the arms of the Czar. The Russian losses at Oltenitza show a desperate resistance; but the whole scheme of the campaign, as far as it has been developed, shows the inferiority of Prince Gortschakoff in strategy, as well as that of his army.

The tenor of all previous accounts leads us to attach credence to the announcement, which created as much astonishment as delight throughout London, on Wednesday last, that the forces of Omer Pacha and Prince Gortschakoff had fought a pitched battle before Bucharest; that the Russians had been defeated with great loss, and were in full retreat towards Kronstadt, and that 15,000 Turks had been despatched to intercept them through the principality of Servia. As this news was transmitted through Vienna, it is—if true at all—more likely to be under than over-stated as regards the Turkish victory. For the sake of Europe, as well as of Turkey, it is earnestly to be hoped that it may prove to be authentic, and to be the precursor of other victories yet more splendid. The Czar will then learn—for the first time, perhaps—that he has as grossly miscalculated the resources of his enemy, as he misjudged the patience and the amity of Great Britain and France, and the general feeling of Europe. He will also learn—or it will be the worse for him—that he has no friends, either in Europe or in Asia, out of his own dominions; and that every state and power which he or his predecessors have despoiled, for their own aggrandisement, is on the watch for the favourable moment to combine against him. The unexpected strength displayed by the Ottomans will decide the rulers and people of many a wavering province and border kingdom, to unite against a power which has made itself a nuisance

alike to civilised Europe and to barbaric Asia. The Czar has chosen to become an aggressor in the name and alleged behalf of his own religion; but Turkey has not only her religion to defend, but her outraged honour to avenge, and her national independence to vindicate and to maintain. The soldiers of the Russian army, who are employed in this struggle, are mere serfs, slaves, and machines, compared with the Turks. The Russians under Prince Gortschakoff have no indomitable spirit of patriotism to animate them to endure hardships and privations, and to think and act as if the fate of an empire depended on each man's individual exertions. The public spirit of their country will make no sacrifices to uphold and to encourage them. The peasant will not leave his plough, nor the weaver his loom, to join their ranks and do battle against the Turks. Old men will not contribute their money, nor young men their strength, to aid the cause of the Czar, unless compelled to do so by a despotic ukase. Ladies will not despoil themselves of their gold or jewels to pay the expenses of the war; nor will churches, monasteries, or corporations pour out their hoarded treasures to pay the armies of the Emperor, unless the tax-gatherer comes to demand the unwilling tribute. But in Turkey the patriotic ardour of the people is such that the sacrifice both of blood and treasure will be cheerfully made. The Turks, even on ordinary occasions, are excellent soldiers; but, on an occasion like the present, they will endure the greatest hardships without a murmur, and each man will feel that individual responsibility which transforms the common soldier into the hero. The Turkish empire has shown that it is not effete. When unattacked from without, Pachas might rebel; but it needed only foreign insult and aggression to startle it into life and vigour, and to rally in its defence millions of devoted subjects in Europe, Asia, and Africa. We do not, of course, imagine that any successes which Omer Pacha may achieve in Wallachia and Moldavia, or Selim Pacha in Asia, will put an end to the war. On the contrary, it is probable that disaster and defeat will for a time increase the obstinacy of the Czar, and impel him to make more desperate efforts to retrieve his falling cause, and restore the ancient prestige of his name. The war may be a protracted one; but that its ultimate issue will be to secure the independence and integrity of the Ottoman dominions, and to open up the Black Sea and the Danube to the commerce of England and France, and of the whole world, we cannot permit ourselves to doubt. Russia can gain nothing by the enterprise in which she has involved herself; and if the Czar loses nothing but his own character, he will come out of the difficulty with more credit than he deserves. The Turks have already rendered an essential service to humanity. They have proved the Russian braggadocio to be, like all others of the same class, far bigger in words than in deeds.

LORD EGLINTON must yield his place as the leader of the Scottish patriots. There is another claimant for the post, with pretensions more lofty than those of his Lordship. The new patriot has been in the field since 1845, and speaks with disparagement of the title, if not of the objects, of the "National Association for the Vindication of Scottish Rights." Those relics of the Protectionist party—such men as Sir Archibald Alison and others—who have joined the movement, are but men of yesterday compared with this Nestor of the cause, thus suddenly introduced into the scene. Our readers will, doubtless, ask the name of the hero—especially when they learn that he aims at the total Repeal of the Union between England and Scotland, and the erection of Scotland into a free and independent Republic. The name has never yet been blown abroad by the trumpet of fame; but who knows what blasts may yet bear it to the remotest ends of the earth? In a letter addressed to ourselves, and accusing us of gross ignorance and presumption (in common, however, with all "Englishmen" and "gentlemen of the press," whom he "thoroughly despises"), the Scottish patriot avows his name to be "John Steill." John Steill considers the "John Bullishness" of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS to be pre-eminent. In order that he may lead us from the paths of error into which he considers we have strayed, and that he may enlighten our dark minds upon the affairs of Scotland, in which he avows his belief that we are "profoundly ignorant," and that he may shew us what he, and "at least a few" of the best men north of the Tweed really desire, and are determined to accomplish, he has forwarded us a printed letter, with corrections and emendations, entitled "Scottish Independence, or the necessity of dissolving the Union between England and Scotland, and of restoring Scotland to her ancient supremacy as an entire and distinct nation." The letter, it appears, reached a second edition so early as 1845, and is modestly asserted by its author to have laid the foundation of the present agitation, and to have made many Scotchmen "speak of the Union in not the most respectful of terms." John Steill, who doubts the sanity of those who laugh at what he considers the "wrongs of Scotland"—[we are not certain if he ranks the heraldic and other grievances of Lord Eglinton and Sir Archibald Alison among the number]—considers himself to be perfectly sane in his attacks upon England and Englishmen; and that our readers may be enabled to form an opinion of their own on the subject, we present a fair epitome of the patriot's pamphlet, as far as possible in his own words:—"The Union between England and Scotland," he says, "was one of the blackest transactions in history; and, like every other measure originating in selfishness, fraud, and injustice, that Union is producing its natural fruits, and promises very soon to realise the worst consequences that our Scottish ancestors anticipated from it—to become, in short, a positive practical nuisance." . . . "I see in it (the Union) the reduction of my country to a state of vassalage which no man ought to brook, and which is the more intolerable when one reflects on the treasure wasted, the blood spilt, and the heroism displayed by our forefathers, to guard their posterity against those very evils of which we have daily cause to complain. And, indeed, in thinking indignantly over these things, I often wonder whether I am treading on Scottish soil, and if it can be possible, that the people I am surrounded by, are the descendants of those who fought at Bannockburn and Stirling-bridge." . . . "The voice of our Scottish members in the mis-named British Senate, is drowned amidst

the clamours of iron-hearted Tories, bloated corruptionists, and hordes of venal creatures who have been sent by the pure and enlightened constituencies of England to manage the business of the realm, and to bear down all opposition before them. Nay, such is the direful effect of the Union on the progress of Scotland, that (without stopping to enumerate the instances in which it has been manifested of late), though the aspirations of the Scotch after national regeneration were to be of the most magnificent description, and enforced in Parliament by the patriotic fire and fervid eloquence of another *Andrew Fletcher of Saltoun*, John Bull would laugh at such projects, just because he did not understand them, and was too much of an Englishman, and too little of a Scotchman, to have a soul to be moved by them." . . . "Enormous as these evils are, however, it is, I fear, hopeless for the people of Scotland to grapple with them while the Union with England continues. England is herself subject to the rod of an oligarchy, whose ancestors, in the days of William the Bastard, won her by the sword; and it is the interest of these men that the privileges of their order to pillage mankind should, in no corner of the British Empire be trench on, or called into question. Hence, Highland misery; hence, such large ill-gotten estates as those of the Dukes of Sutherland and Buccleuch—estates which, instead of belonging to two men, ought to be broken up and parcelled out in property among tens of thousands of men." . . . But the question occurs to Mr Steill: "How are these animating prospects to be realised; and what mode of government would be best suited to promote the interests of Scotchmen, and secure to them the enjoyment of these prerogatives I am supposing to be within their reach? It seems to me that, for these purposes, the Union ought to be dissolved out and out; and that the same deed which annuls the Union ought to invest every sane man with the privilege of electing those who are to rule over him. But, as the right exercise of the suffrage would be incompatible with the existence of Monarchy and a hereditary aristocracy, these barbaric institutions would require to be swept away, and the nation declared a REPUBLIC, open to exchange commodities with the whole world without let or hindrance."

We do not suppose that Lord Eglinton—once Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and having peculiar opportunities of ascertaining the mischiefs that flow from popular agitations, whether for Repeal of a Legislative Union, or for Sectarian and Party objects—can be an adherent of "John Steill." Neither can we imagine that Sir Archibald Alison, Professor Aytoun, and the other Protectionist Lords, gentlemen, and Writers to the Signet, who have countenanced the National Association for the Vindication of Scottish Rights, share the views of this person, either as regards a Scottish Republic, or the re-appropriation of the estates of the Dukes of Sutherland and Buccleuch. But it is evident they have got into bad company; and the sooner they all get out of it, and disavow it, the better, we think, for their credit. People may laugh at the wrongs of the Scottish Lion and Unicorn; but John Steill's doctrines, if countenanced even to the slightest extent by men of influence and station, are no laughing matter.

THE COURT.

The Duke and Duchess de Brabant left the Castle on Monday, on a tour in the west of England, from whence they returned on Thursday; on the evening of which day the second dramatic performance—closing the first series—was given, before a large and distinguished party. The pieces selected upon this occasion were—a comedy, in three acts, by Mr. Slingsby Lawrence, entitled the "Game of Speculation;" and a comic drama, in one act, by Mr. Chas. Matthews, entitled "Little Toddlekins;" and the principal parts were filled by Messrs. C. Matthews, R. Roxby, J. F. Cathcart, F. Matthews, B. Baker, and Mr. Suter; Mesdames Melfort and F. Matthews, and Miss M. Oliver and Miss Ellis.

The Queen has taken equestrian exercise more than once during the past week. The Prince Consort has paid two official visits to the metropolis.

The Hon. Matilda Paget and the Hon. Mary Seymour have succeeded the Hon. Beatrice Byng and the Hon. Eleanor Stanley as Maids of Honour in Waiting to the Queen.

Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess de Brabant, are expected to leave Windsor Castle on Tuesday next for Osborne, where they will sojourn until the 8th proximo; when the Duke and Duchess de Brabant will take leave of their august relatives and return to Brussels. The Court will leave the Isle of Wight for Buckingham Palace on the same day, and proceed thence on the 23rd proximo to Windsor Castle for the Christmas holidays.

Viscount and Viscountess Newport have arrived at Melton Mowbray for the hunting season.

Lord Elphinstone, the newly-appointed Governor of Bombay, left St. George's-place on Monday evening for Paris, whence his Lordship proceeds by the Overland route to the seat of his Government in India.

CABINET COUNCILS.—A Cabinet Council was held on Wednesday, at the Foreign-office. The Ministers present were:—The Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Duke of Argyll, Viscount Palmerston, the Earl of Clarendon, the Duke of Newcastle, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir James Graham, Sir Charles Wood, the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, and Sir W. Molesworth. The Council sat two hours and a half.

BRITISH GUIANA.—It is said that the Government of British Guiana has been offered to Sir Edmund Walker Head, Bart., the present Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, on a reduced salary of £4000 per annum.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Napier Champ, Esq., to be Colonial Secretary of Van Diemen's Land; Thomas Birley, Esq., to be First Writer in the Office of the Colonial Secretary in Gambia; Rear-Admiral Houston Stewart, C.B., to be a Member of the Council of Malta; Edward Joseph Darley, Esq., to be a Member of the Legislative Council of Ceylon; George Price, Esq., to be a Member of the Council of Jamaica; Charles Girdleston, Esq., to be a Member of the Council of the Virgin Islands; John Work, Esq., to be a Member of the Council of Vancouver's Island; and Ernest Beaudot, Esq., to be a Member of the Council of Government of Mauritius, during the temporary absence of William Foster, Esq.

NEW GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY.—On Saturday last the East India Company gave their customary farewell banquet to Lord Elphinstone, on his appointment as Governor of Bombay. The chair was taken by Russell Ellice, Esq.; and among the hundred and thirty-seven guests present were—Lord Granville; Marquis of Lansdowne, K.G.; Viscount Canning; Viscount Hardinge, G.C.B.; Sir C. Wood, Sir James Graham, the Lord Mayor, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, and a formidable array of old Indian officers. The speeches delivered on the occasion were all "neat and appropriate."

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.—The movement against the taxes on knowledge has not been extinguished by the repeal of the advertisement duty. On Monday, Mr. Dobson Collett attended a meeting at Birmingham, to aid in the removal of the newspaper stamp and paper duty. A local association was formed; and Mr. Scholefield, M.P., the Mayor, were respectively appointed treasurer and president of the association.

A REASONABLE RAILWAY COMPANY.—The Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Company have laid down the following rules:—1. No further expenditure without absolute necessity. 2. No new lines but those authorised for coal. 3. No Parliamentary expenses without manifest necessity. 4. Arbitration to be offered in all cases of difference. 5. The manager to apply his whole time to develop the traffic and reduce the expenditure. 6. A committee of directors to communicate with other boards on the same subject.

POSTSCRIPT.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

Advices from Constantinople to the 7th inst., state:—
 "A new project of note arrived yesterday morning, with instructions to the Ambassadors of England and France to recommend it to the Porte; but there appears to be a decided objection on the part of the Porte to its being signed. The city is perfectly tranquil.
 "Several Russian prisoners of war have arrived from Batoum, and more are expected.
 "The fort of Chekedy (in Asia) taken by the Turks on the 28th of October, contained 2000 muskets, four cannon, and 1000 men.
 "A small Turkish squadron is cruising in the Black Sea.
 "Two British and two French line-of-battle ships are lying off Thessalonica for the present.
 "No further reinforcement is expected from the Dardanelles."

A Russian despatch from Bucharest, of the 18th, says that no further engagement had taken place since the affair at Oltenitza; and that General Osten-Sacken, with 50,000 men, has already crossed the Pruth, hastening by forced marches to Jassy: neither of which statements can be received without caution. That General Osten-Sacken has received orders to march to the Danube in forced marches is all that is certainly known. After the Russian declaration of war, several officers belonging to the general staff at St. Petersburg were ordered to leave at once for the Principalities. Lieut.-General Lazareff-Stanischew, the Commander of the Mobile Artillery, has received orders to forward such trains of heavy artillery to the Danube as may be necessary for bombarding the Turkish fortresses. The Russians pretend that they will be able to cross the Balkan before the severe weather sets in—a piece of presumption which reads oddly enough after the successes achieved by Turkish intrepidity in Wallachia.

It was supposed that the Turks had bombarded Giurgevo from gun-boats; but we now learn that they fired from 24-pounders placed on the island that they had previously secured and fortified. The Russians had nothing but 6-pounders to oppose to them, as the heavier artillery had been sent to Perlitza, a place fifty English miles from the Danube. Nature and art have made the position occupied by the Turks at Oltenitza an excellent one. In their rear is the fortified town of Turtukai, on their left the river Argish, on their right impassable morasses, and in front the walls of earth thrown up by the Russians in 1828 and 1829. The attack of the Russians on these entrenchments totally failed, as the storming party was exposed to a murderous enfilade fire from the Turkish gun-boats.

It was expected that the next affair of importance would take place between Krajova and Kalafat, as letters of the 7th from Orsova mention the arrival of strong Russian reinforcements at Krajova, and Lieut.-General Fischback had received orders to dislodge the Turks from their entrenched position. The latter, however, were not inclined to wait to be attacked, for early in the morning of the 5th 4000 foot, eight squadrons of horse, and four batteries advanced along the road to Krajova. This expedition of the Turks to Lesser Wallachia is not considered very hazardous. The capital Krajova, which is inhabited by a powerful and warlike race, is extremely anti-Russian; and, in 1848, when the Lesser Wallachia resolved to attempt to shake off the protection of Russia, the little province had 40,000 men under arms. Should the Turks win one pitched battle the people would begin to move, and the Russians would require a powerful reserve army to keep the principalities (which have an area of some 28,000 or 24,000 square English miles) quiet.

Austrian military men speak in the highest terms of the mastery with which the operations of the Turks on the right bank of the Danube have been conducted.

A medical man writes from Bucharest, that both regular and temporary hospitals are over-filled with native and foreign patients:—

We have wounded men from the affairs at Oltenitza, Kalarasch, Giurgevo, Kalsfat, and before Krajova. A vast number of the wounds were inflicted with the sword and bayonet. It is not permitted to indulge even in conjectures; but we physicians, while extracting bullets, amputating, and bandaging, manage to learn what has happened. The cholera, which has visited all the detachments, has assumed a milder form at Bucharest; but the typhus fever commits sad ravages. The troops are so badly protected from the weather, and have such an insufficient supply of fuel, that the present state of things cannot long continue without leading to endemic and epidemic diseases—from which may Heaven preserve us, in whose memories the horrors of war and plague in the Balkan, in 1829, are still fresh.

According to private intelligence, the Russian commissariat is even more deplorable than it was during the Hungarian war. The men, as a rule, get nothing but oatmeal bread, groats, slops, and spirits.

The *Univers* publishes a letter from Bucharest, of the 31st ult., containing the following facts, the truth of which, it says, it guarantees:—

After the publication of the first manifesto of the Emperor Nicholas, concluding with, "We will march to defend the Orthodox faith," two Poles belonging to a regiment serving in Bessarabia having heard of the manifesto, waited on the Colonel, and said to him, "We have just read the Emperor's manifesto, and as we desire to act as good soldiers, we come to ask for our discharge, because as good Catholics, we cannot fight for the Greek religion." The Colonel wrote to St. Petersburg for instructions how to act, and was commanded to have the two soldiers shot. Four others, who made the same observation, met the same fate in Moldavia.

On the 8th inst. a feldjager left St. Petersburg with despatches for Vienna. The Emperor has spoken out plainly, that as long as the Turks are on the left bank of the Danube, and the Sultan has not retracted his declaration of war, any further negotiations in the way of arrangement as followed hitherto are out of the question. There appears, therefore, no chance of a pacific arrangement at present, since the accounts from Constantinople represent the Sultan as equally indisposed to listen to the proposals of the diplomatists.

Letters from St. Petersburg, of the 3rd inst., announce that a new levy of troops, in the proportion of seven men to every thousand inhabitants, had been commenced throughout the entire of the eastern part of the Russian empire.

Regarding the encounters on the Asiatic frontier of Turkey, we gather the following details from a letter from Constantinople, of the 3rd inst.:—

Yesterday morning Edhem Effendi arrived from Trebizond, bringing a despatch from Selim Pacha, Commander-in-Chief of the Turkish forces stationed at Batoum. The despatch was dated Chekedy, and gave the Minister of War an account of the following engagement:—On the 14th ult., Major Massa Bey, having been sent forward to reconnoitre the fortifications that the Russians were making at the other side of the Tchourouk-sou, was received by a fire of musketry, which he immediately returned; and, on sending for a reinforcement, Selim Pacha despatched several battalions to his aid. The Russians having in the meantime also increased in number, an engagement ensued, which soon became general. Selim Pacha crossed the Tchourouk-sou at several points, and drove the Russians back, after encountering a very serious resistance. The Russians were obliged to retreat, pursued as far as Orelli by the Turkish General, Hassan Pacha. The bulk of the Russian forces receded to Chekedy. In this first action the Turks took two pieces of artillery from the Russians, and made 144 prisoners—the Russians losing 600 men, dead and wounded. At Chekedy a most determined fight has, however, taken place. The Russians had received reinforcements there, and then made a stout resistance. Selim Pacha took the town by storm, being obliged to attack the place twice. The Russians gave way at last, leaving a great number dead, three cannon, and upwards of one hundred prisoners—amongst whom was Colonel Klatt, a chief of the Cossacks. The Turks captured 3000 sacks of flour, a great deal of ammunition, and 1600 muskets. Selim Pacha concludes his despatch by announcing that he is about to march on Echoun Kale, two regiments of cavalry and three batteries of field artillery having been sent in pursuit of the enemy. Before surrendering Chekedy the Russians set fire to different quarters of the town, burning a great portion of it. The principal object of Hassan Pacha in pushing on is to keep open the communications between Selim Pacha and Abdi Pacha. The Turks state their loss at the passage of Tchourouk-sou to have been 60 dead and 150 wounded, and at Chekedy 150 dead and 300 wounded.

Letters have been received from Trebizond, which state the inhabitants of that place to be in some fermentation, in consequence of the taking of Chekedy.

The English and French residents at Constantinople, on the morning of Tuesday the 1st inst., enjoyed the gratifying sight of the English and French naval divisions in the ciffing of Constantinople. At about nine a.m. Admiral Dundas, in the *Retribution*, passed the Seraglio Point, and shortly after Admiral Hamelin, in the *Gomer*, entered the port. The *Yegance* entered at about mid-day; but the *Albion*, and the French ships of the line could not make head against the current, and they anchored outside the Seraglio Point. On Wednesday the *Albion* and *Henri IV.* came in; and early on Thursday morning the *Jupiter* managed to clear the Point, and proudly made her way up the Bosphorus. The Admirals paid their visits of ceremony to the Turkish officials of marine on the 3rd inst.

Admiral Slade, of the Turkish navy, has entered the Black Sea with

six Turkish frigates and two war-steamers. It is not precisely known what the object of this expedition is. Four Russian men-of-war have been seen cruising in the Black Sea, and a collision between the two fleets may be shortly expected.

The Druses on the Lebanon have begun to annoy the Christians, and a French and Austrian ship of war have sailed to the coast of Syria.

FRANCE.

Vely Pacha, the Ottoman Ambassador in Paris, purchased, on Tuesday, 40,000 new muskets and carabines de Vincennes, for which he at once paid two millions of francs.

The verdict in the trial of the conspirators against the Emperor's life was pronounced on Wednesday. It is "not guilty" in the case of six of the prisoners; and 22 were found "guilty," with attenuating circumstances. Of the latter, seven have been sentenced to transportation, three to eight years' exile, and the rest to terms of imprisonment varying from five to ten years.

M. Sacconi, who has been definitively decided on as Apostolical Nuncio at Paris, has already filled a similar post at the Court of Bavaria.

A meeting of the British residents in Paris, was held on Wednesday, at the Hôtel Meurice—Lord Howden in the chair—to consider the propriety of opening a subscription for the purpose of erecting a tablet to the memory of Lieutenant Bellot. About 5000 francs were collected in the room. It was resolved that a tablet or statue should be erected, and the surplus of the funds, if any, be placed at the disposal of the Minister of Marine, for the benefit of the brother of Lieutenant Bellot, who has entered, or is about to enter, the French navy.

There was scarcely any business transacted at the Bourse on Wednesday. The speculators appeared to be apprehensive of engaging in any operations until some more decisive news shall have arrived from the seat of war. The Three per Cents. opened at 73f. 45c., and closed at 73f. 40c. for the end of the month.

AUSTRIA.

Count de Buol Schauenstein, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, is said to have resolved to resign. His portfolio has been offered to Count Thun, the Austrian Ambassador at Berlin. The candidate of the Russian party for the portfolio in question, is M. de Fiquelmont, but it was not believed he had any chance.

ITALY.

Lord Malmesbury has published a letter upon the subject of the treatment of Mr. Hamilton by the Neapolitan Government. His Lordship says:—

When I first heard from Sir William Temple of the brutal outrage committed by the Neapolitan police upon Mr. Hamilton's scholars, and of the breach of treaties against Mr. Hamilton himself, my first and paramount duty was to oblige this Italian State officially to acknowledge that British subjects residing at Naples possessed an indefeasible right to visit and receive one another in their houses, for all objects of social intercourse, and of religious and secular education. I did exact from the Neapolitan Government an official recognition of that right; and, more than this, I obtained from it, that a British school, which had hitherto existed, as they stated, by connivance and forbearance, should be hereafter publicly authorised and established under the protection of the British Mission.

The noble Earl says he considered £100 a due compensation for Mr. Hamilton's loss; and he adds, that the "ridiculous conversation" alleged to have taken place between Prince Carini and him is a gross invention. He concludes by saying:—"I leave it to the two Neapolitan Ministers and to Mr. Hamilton to determine who the author of such trash can be."

CUBA AND THE UNITED STATES.

A correspondence has taken place between Lord Howden, the English Ambassador at Madrid, and Mr. Corbin, of Virginia, relative to the supposed intrigue with Spain, attributed to Great Britain in the United States, in order to enable the British Government to effect the manumission of the slaves of Cuba. Lord Howden solemnly contradicts the assertions of the American newspapers, and thus describes the nature of the negotiations which he has really carried on with the Spanish Government relative to Cuba:—

First, I have been making uncessing representations at the number of slaves annually imported into the island, and complaints of the almost open manner in which the traffic was carried on under the very noses of the Captains-General, always excepting the excellent General Concha. Secondly, I have been making fruitless attempts to get the Spanish Government to declare the abominable traffic in men piracy—that is to say, to follow the example of the United States in this particular. Thirdly, I passed my time in anxious solicitations to obtain the ultimate and complete freedom of those negroes called "Emanicipados," who have been fraudulently detained in bondage since the year 1817, in disregard of treaties. I rejoice to say that the Spanish Government has listened to the dictates of justice and humanity, and has granted me this boon. Fourthly, I have been endeavouring to procure an abrogation of that intolerant and immoral law, by which foreigners, wishing to settle in Cuba, are obliged to change their religion, on the somewhat startling principle (not understood elsewhere) that becoming bad men is a satisfactory preliminary to becoming good subjects. To these official negotiations I have added, at various times, friendly and officious exhortations to improve the internal system of the island, by facilitating the administration of justice, and by liberalising the nominations to office and employment among the natives of the island.

Lord Howden concludes by saying:—

Spain herself must feel that, in days like these, unless she executes her engagements and modifies her intolerance, she can never hope to enter again, and as she ought to do, into the hierarchy of nations.

M. EUGENE DE PLANARD, a well-known dramatic writer, has just died in Paris, aged upwards of seventy years. He has written for forty-six years for the great theatres of Paris, and has composed more than fifty dramatic works.

AUSTRALIAN MAILS.—The ship *Matilda*, Wallenback, of 1058 tons, has been taken up by the Post-office authorities for the conveyance of the Australian mails from Liverpool, on the 4th December.

FOREIGN IRON FOR FRANCE.—The delay in the appearance of the expected decree of the Emperor with reference to the abolition or modification of the duties on iron, is said to be caused by the Emperor's intention to reduce or abolish the duties on coal simultaneously with those on iron.

YOUNG CRIMINALS.—A conference on the subject of "the legislative amendments imperatively called for in the national treatment of morally destitute and criminal children," has been convened to meet at Birmingham, at Dee's Hotel, on the 1st of December.

NOTTINGHAM, MONDAY.—We are sorry to have to record three acts of incendiarism which have been committed in this county within the past few days. A man, named William Morris, has been apprehended on suspicion.

YEW BERRIES POISONOUS.—A few days since, Mr. Whitmarsh held an inquest at Sevenhampton, Hants, on the body of a child who had died through eating some yew berries, which it had picked up in the churchyard while playing there with some other children. The verdict was accidentally poisoned.

MR. HUDSON.—It is reported at Sunderland that on the meeting of Parliament Mr. Hudson will apply for the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds, with a view to retire from the representation of that borough. The Conservatives speak of Mr. Duncan Dunbar as his successor.—*Daily News*.

THE MANCHESTER ATHENÆUM had a narrow escape from destruction by fire on Wednesday afternoon. The fire in a large stove in the news-room had ignited the floor; but some boards having been torn up, the flames were fortunately discovered in time to check their progress.

STRIKES IN THE NORTH.—*Wigan*.—The strike of the Wigan colliers is probably at an end; and Lord Balcarras has sent home the Welsh miners, to prevent ill-blood. Mr. Ekersley's mill was opened on Monday morning, to give an opportunity of returning to work, and a few presented themselves, but not a sufficient number to enable the machinery to run to advantage, and the gates had to be closed again. The cavalry were withdrawn from Wigan, and returned to Manchester last week, but two companies of the 34th regiment are left in the borough. An address to the factory hands, earnestly recommending submission, has been issued by some gentlemen who interested themselves with a view to bringing about a reconciliation between employers and operatives.—*At Burnley*, there are symptoms which seem to presage a resumption of labour in the district, and that the unemployed will not continue foolishly to suffer the pinching and want which have been the lot of so many thousands for three weeks.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTION AT SALFORD.—The new building for this institution in its extended form—arising from the amalgamation of the old institution with a new one which was originated—was opened on Monday evening, with a tea-party and soirée. There were from 200 to 300 persons present; among the guests being Joseph Brotherton, Esq., M.P., and Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P.; together with Messrs. Bazley, Henry, Alderman Sir E. Armitage, and Sir John Potter. There is already a flourishing day-school in existence in the institution, under the management of Mr. J. Angel.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Canonries*: The Rev. F. H. Freeth, and the Rev. G. C. White, have been appointed to Cumbria, diocese of Argyll. *Rectories*: The Rev. W. Hollis, to Bradfield, with the rectory of Kusbroke annexed, near Bury St. Edmunds; Rev. G. Naylor, to Rougham, Bury St. Edmunds; Rev. F. Spurrell, to Faulkbourne, Essex; Rev. F. Borradaile, to Norton Episcopi, with Atterby annexed; Rev. H. Temple, to Thornton, near Buckingham; Rev. J. Husband, to Slattyn, near Oswestry. *Vicarages*: The Rev. W. Keene, to Whitby. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. W. H. Hugall, to Taddington, Derbyshire; Rev. F. V. Mather, to St. Paul, Clifton; Rev. E. Wood, to Bradfield, near Sheffield; Rev. H. Farish, to Eccleshall, Yorkshire; Rev. Dr. G. Aspinall, to Duffus, Morayshire; Rev. T. Barry, to St. Barnabas, Liverpool; Rev. T. H. Chase, to Lydbrook, in the Forest of Dean; Rev. J. C. Grezory, to Lothkirk, near Barnard Castle; Rev. H. G. Randall, to St. Peter's Bishopport, near Bristol; Rev. W. H. Wilson, to Birley, near Hexham; Rev. E. E. Jones to St. Paul, Gorsedd, Flintshire.

His Majesty the King of Hanover has been most graciously pleased to appoint the Rev. D. C. Delafosse, A.M., Rector of Shere, Surrey, one of his domestic chaplains.

CHURCH-RATES.—Church-rates have been refused at Kettering by 291 to 191; at Barnard Castle, by a majority of 49; and at Langtoft, by a large majority.

EAST ARDSLEY CHURCH.—This church was re-opened on Tuesday, after having been closed for a short time for the purpose of cleaning it and introducing an organ. The day was one of rejoicing in the village.

CAST-IRON CHURCH.—Another cast-iron church, capable of accommodating 500 persons, has been completed for the Colonial Church Missionary Society, at Cliff-house, Bedminster; and on Monday a sermon was preached in it by the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, London. The rapidity with which this erection has been completed is very surprising. Four weeks ago Mr. Hemmings received the order, and now the building is complete, with its tower, sittings, pulpit, baptistry, and all accessories.

THE NEW SCHOOL AT EVERSLEY, HANTS, built from the design of Mr. J. B. Clacey, of Reading, was opened on Thursday last; when the Bishop of Oxford preached in Eversley Church an eloquent sermon in aid of the school funds. The congregation then adjourned to the school-room; where, after suitable prayers, hymns, and a solemn blessing given by the Bishop, the Rev. Charles Kingsley, Rector of Eversley, expressed his acknowledgments to the Right Rev. Prelate for his attendance, and to the clergy, gentry, and neighbours, who had kindly contributed to the erection of the school. The children and their parents were then regaled by their patrons with dinner in marquees erected in the school grounds.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have recently received tokens of affection and esteem:—Rev. J. Partridge, master of the Yarmouth Proprietary School, by the pupils; Rev. J. Firmin, minister of Trinity Church, Odd Rode, from the members of his Bible class; Rev. N. W. Gibson and Mrs. Gibson, by the Rev. H. Newland, curate, the superintendents and teachers of St. Thomas's Sunday-schools, Ardwick.

THE BRITISH FLEET IN THE TURKISH WATERS.

At the present time, it will be satisfactory to know our strength in the Turkish waters. The following will be found a correct list of the Mediterranean Fleet at present in the Dardanelles:—

	Guns.	Horse Power.	Men.
Britannia ..	120	—	970
Trafalgar ..	120	—	970
Albion ..	90	—	850
Rodney ..	90	—	850
Vengeance ..	84	—	750
Bellerophon ..	78	—	670
Sanspareil ..	71	350	650
Arethusa ..	50	—	500
Leander ..	50	—	500
Retribution ..	28	800	330
Furious ..	16	400	240
Tiger ..	16	400	240
Firebrand ..	6	410	106
Sampson ..	6	467	196
Niger ..	14	400	160
Wasp ..	14	100	160
Fury ..	6	515	160
Infatigable ..	6	380	160
Ardent ..	4	200	60
Caradoc ..	4	350	60
Shearwater ..	4	160	60
Spitfire ..	4	140	60
Triton ..	4	240	60
Total ..	855	5332	8852

The following are on their way to reinforce the fleet, viz.:—

Terrible ..	21	800	330
Queen ..	116	—	950
London ..	90	—	820
Agamemnon ..	91	550	850
Leopard ..	16	560	300
Highflyer ..	21	250	230
Total ..	355	2160	3480

Grand total, 29 ships, 1240 guns, 7492 horse-power, 12,332 men.

The *Indus*—which arrived at Southampton on Thursday morning, with the heavy portion of the Overland Mail—spoke the *Leopard* (in the Mediterranean) on the 8th the *Terrible* (off Cape Trafalgar) on the 12th; and on the 11th, the *Queen* passed Gibraltar, without anchoring.

REAR-ADMIRAL PASCO, Nelson's Flag-Lieutenant at Trafalgar, died at Stonehouse, near Plymouth, on Tuesday, from an attack of English cholera, in his eightieth year.

THE SHIP "MOORESFORT."—On the 23rd October the ship *Moorefort* left Liverpool, with a large number of passengers and a general cargo, for Melbourne. Last Sunday week a plank, nine feet long and nine inches broad, with the word "Moorefort," in gilt letters, cut in it, was washed on shore at Goleen, near Crookhaven. It is hoped that no serious accident has occurred to this fine ship, but that the board found was washed from the quarter.

SHIP LAUNCH.—A magnificent clipper ship—the finest vessel recently produced on the Wear—has been launched from the yard of Mr. John T. Alcock, her builder. She has been named the *Spirit of the Deep*; and measures 785 tons O. M., and 734 N. M.; extreme length, 190 feet; is constructed throughout of English oak and teak; and will class 13 years A. 1. at Lloyd's. She is beautifully modelled and polished, and her poop-cabin is fitted with polished teak-wood. Her managing owners are Messrs. D. and J. Macdonald, of Liverpool, and she is intended for the India and China trade.

THE GREENOCK PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY commenced their annual series of winter concerts on Tuesday evening. The band is selected from the finest London orchestras, and includes Messrs. T. and C. Harper, Nicholson, R. and F. Pratten, Webb, Aylward, Maycock, Rae, Horton, Larkin, Schmidt, Zerbini, &c.; under the leadership of Mr. H. C. Cooper. Miss Milner was the vocalist. In order to carry out the object for which the society was formed—that of cultivating a more refined taste, especially amongst the people—serial subscription tickets have this season been issued, at an extremely moderate charge. Nearly 800 area tickets were taken up previous to the opening night. The President for the year is Sir Michael Shaw Stewart.

AN ENGINE RUSHING INTO THE SEA.—THE PORTLAND BREAKWATER.—A shocking accident happened on Monday, by the giving way of the timber viaduct which supports the railway. About eleven o'clock a train, with four waggons filled with stone, was proceeding at a moderate pace, when the driver noticed an oscillation of the viaduct, and looking in front observed that some of the timbers had given way. He instantly shut off his steam; but, finding that an accident was inevitable, he and his stoker sprang off the engine into the sea, and thus escaped; but in a moment or two afterwards the train reached the point where the viaduct had given way, and the whole of it, with two unfortunate breakmen clinging to the waggons, was precipitated into the sea. The two breakmen were not seen afterwards.

THE BURNHAM MURDER.—The evidence against Moses Hatto (sometimes spelled Haddo), now in Aylesbury gaol, on the charge of murdering Mary Ann Sturgeon, at Burnham, and burning the body, is indirect. The police have searched every spot on and about the premises, where it might be supposed likely for the rings, pencil-cases, and razors stolen from the dressing-room in Mr. Goodwin's room to have been placed; but as yet they have not succeeded in obtaining the missing articles. It is stated that an additional link in the evidence against Hatto has been supplied by the discovery of the missing shirt. He is described as of small stature, but well knit, and with a pleasing countenance. Upon his arrival at Aylesbury gaol, the same air of bravado which marked his demeanour before the jury was observable; but the next day it was changed to gloomy reserve.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING NOV. 17.

Month and Day.	Corrected Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
Nov. 11	30.284	49.2	32.0	40.1	- 3.9	95	N.E.	0.00
" 12	30.292	50.9	36.0	43.9	+ 0.2	87	Calm.	0.00
" 13	29.888	48.8	40.2	44.1	+ 0.7	96	N.E.	0.01
" 14	29.720	44.2	35.8	39.5	- 3.7	92	S.W.	0.00
" 15	29.672	43.3	31.3	36.6	- 6.3	100	Calm.	0.10
" 16	29.703	45.5	32.0	39.4	- 3.3	88	N.	0.00
" 17	29.814	40.1	27.6	33.4	- 9.1	88	S.W. & N.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average, and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is as represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer increased from 30.31 inches at the beginning of the week to 30.37 inches by 6 p.m. on the 11th; decreased to 29.69 inches by the afternoon of the 15th; and increased to 29.87 inches by the end of the week. The mean reading for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.891 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 39.6°, being 3.6° below the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 23.3°, being the difference between the highest reading, on the 12th, and the lowest reading, on the 17th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 12.4°. The greatest was 17.2°, on the 11th, and the least 8.4°, on the 14th.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of one-tenth of an inch.

The weather has been fine during the week; but the air has been misty, and fogs have been prevalent.

Lewisham, Nov. 18, 1853.

JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending Nov. 12, the births of 866 boys and 748 girls were registered in the Metropolitan districts. The averages of the eight corresponding weeks in the previous eight years were 696 and 680 respectively. The deaths registered within the same period were 1192; being 80 more than in the preceding week. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1843 to 1852, the average number was 1028; which, if raised in proportion to increase of population, becomes 1131. The mortality, therefore, is in excess. The number of births exceeded the deaths by 422. The deaths at three different periods of life were thus distributed: at ages less than 15, 617; and above 60, 187; the remaining 387 occurred at ages between 15 and 60. In the west districts (population 376,427) there were 185 deaths; of these 16 were cholera; in the north districts (population 490,896), deaths 221; from cholera, 15; central districts (population 393,256), deaths 153; from cholera, none; in the east districts (population 485,522), from cholera, 22; and, in the south districts (population 616,635), deaths 242; from cholera, 45. To zymotic diseases, 249 deaths are attributed (their average is 248); of these, small-pox caused 8; measles, 25; scarlatina, 50; hooping-cough, 41; diarrhoea, 45 (exceeding its average by no less than 27); cholera, 98 (last week the number was 102); and typhus, 43. To dropsy, cancer, and kindred diseases, 47. To tubercular diseases, 196 (their average is 168). To those of the brain, &c., 128 (their average is 113). To those of the heart, 36. To those of the lungs, &c., 189 (their average is 180); of these, 82 were bronchitis (its average is 57), and the disease is on the increase. To those of the stomach, 62; to premature birth, 31; to age, 33 (its average is 52); to cold, 1; poison, 2; burns and scalds, 5; hanging, 4; drowning, 5; and fractures, 22. The deaths in the present return show an increase on the weekly numbers of October, arising, apparently from greater coldness of the weather, and also, in part, from cholera, which continues to be most fatal in the lower parts of the London basin. In conformity with the law which, it was found, regulated the mortality of cholera in 1848-9, the mortality in the present epidemic, although the numbers are few, is nearly in the inverse ratio of the elevation of the ground on which the dwellings of the inhabitants stand. The mortality from cholera in the districts at an average elevation of less than twenty feet above Trinity high-water mark has been 28 in 100,000 inhabitants; in the districts of an average elevation of twenty, and below forty feet, the mortality has been 20 in 100,000; at an elevation of forty to sixty feet, the mortality has been 13 in 100,000; at sixty feet of elevation, and under 120, the mortality has been 8 in 100,000. At Hampstead, where the elevation may be put at 350 feet, there has, hitherto, been no death from cholera.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—The centenary session of this society was opened on Wednesday evening, Mr. Harry Chester in the chair. After the preliminary arrangements of the evening—which included the proposal of a vast number of candidates—among whom were the names of the Duke of Newcastle, Lords Sefton and Fife, the Right Hon. Milner Gibson, &c.—the chairman proceeded to give in detail a very interesting account of the origin and progress of the society. After tracing the society down to its present state, and stating that the total amount distributed in premiums and bounties considerably exceeds £100,000, he alluded to the active part taken by the society in the promotion of the Great Exhibition of 1851; and, after some practical observations on what the society proposed to do in the coming year, stated that the following subjects of discussion had been determined on:—Gold crushing and pulverising, consumption of smoke, ventilation of collieries, sewing machines, manufactures of carpets, gas and its application to domestic uses, which concluded his very able and interesting discourse. Mr. Tooke proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was seconded by Mr. Richardson. The company assembled afterwards inspected the various manufactures that were exhibited. These will be open to the public by tickets from members for some time.

WASTE OF FOOD AND DEAR BREAD.—On Wednesday evening the third monthly meeting of the National Temperance Society was held in the large room of the Whittington Club; the leading topic of discourse being the economical and commercial aspects of the temperance question, particularly as illustrated by the wholesale waste of food and increased price of bread occasioned by the manufacture of malt and spirituous liquors. Addresses were delivered by J. Cassell, Esq. (the chairman), Mr. Thomas Hudson, and Dr. F. R. Lees, who adduced much statistical and argumentative evidence to show how this course, the pressure of which is most severely felt at the periods of natural scarcity, is constantly inflicting enormous and commercial losses on the people of the United Kingdom. Among other facts, it was remarked that the wholesome grain thus annually consumed would provide a pound and a half of bread per day for the same period to upwards of four million persons, while, in a gallon of the best brewed ale the nutrition does not exceed that contained in a single penny loaf. Several signatures to the total abstinence pledge were recorded at the close of the meeting.

MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE.—A sermon in aid of the funds of this excellent institution is to be preached to-morrow (Sunday), in St. Michael's Church, Chester-square, by the Rev. W. Harrison, M.A., Rector of Birch; on which occasion we trust that the appeal will be liberally responded to. The building is now rapidly progressing; and, when completed, will not only be a haven of refuge to many distressed members of the medical profession, but will also afford a liberal education to the orphans of deceased practitioners.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—On Tuesday night, the first of the ninth series of lectures in connection with this society, was delivered in Exeter-hall, by the Right Hon. Sir James Stephen, K.C.B., Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge, "On deuterology and systematic reading." The hall was crowded in every part.

DEFACED COIN.—A Treasury minute has been published on the subject of defaced coin, in which it is stated that the object of the late Act of Parliament, to prevent the defacing of the current coin of the realm, was not to interpose any difficulty in regard to such coin as may have suffered from wear and tear, but to put a stop to the practice of stamping the names of persons or firms upon coins by way of advertisement or otherwise.

THE CARLTON CLUB, Pall-mall, is about to be completed, under the direction of Mr. S. Smirke, with all its three fronts finished as the wing lately built, using polished granite shafts for the columns and pilasters throughout. The contract has been taken, and the work is to be completed early in 1855. Mr. Thomas is to execute the sculpture of the exterior. The club, in the meantime, will occupy the Duke of Buckingham's house adjoining.

IMPORTANT DECISION TO LAND SOCIETIES.—On Thursday, in the Common Pleas, a special case of appeal was brought by Mr. Moorhouse, for himself and 104 others, against the decision of the revising barrister for the Northern Division of Lancashire, in respect of certain freehold land at Preston, in Lancashire, of which they were the owners, and which were let to tenants at a gross rental of £210, giving a presumed value of 40s. annually to each of the 105 owners. It appears, however, that there were three rates—the poor, water, and local health rate—which would reduce the actual received value to 38s. per annum only. The land in question was purchased by a Freehold Land Society, and by them divided into 105 allotments of 40s. gross annual value each. Mr. Edward James, Q.C., appeared for the appellants, and Mr. Serjeant Byles for the respondent. The Court said it was perfectly clear that the annual value did not amount to 40s., but only to 38s.; therefore it was not necessary to go into the whole question as to the rate. The value must be what it produced; and if there were a contract to pay a rate which reduced the value actually received, the gross rent of 40s. was not to be taken as the value to entitle the claimants to vote. They were of opinion that the decision of the revising barrister was correct, and, therefore, the appeal must be dismissed. Mr. Serjeant Byles applied for costs, which the Court ordered. Appeal dismissed with costs.

THE TEMPLE GARDENS.—CRYSANTHEMUM SHOW.—At the present time the lovers of this autumnal flower will be highly gratified by paying a visit to the Temple Gardens; where may be seen, perhaps, the largest collection of crysanthemums in England, in, or nearly, full bloom.

CHARING-CROSS BRIDGE.—It is proposed to widen and convert this bridge (Hungerford Suspension), into a horse and carriage causeway, and to erect new approaches on both sides of the river.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—Thursday was the anniversary of the burial of the Duke of Wellington at St. Paul's Cathedral; and although twelve months have elapsed the great warrior still remains in the same part of the vault as when lowered by the attendants, the crypt not having been yet completed. Many inquiries were made of the Cathedral officials on the subject, but no information could be obtained.

THE MODEL LODGING-HOUSES AT KENNINGTON.—Sir William Molesworth has given notice that the model lodging houses on Kennington-common will, in future, be open for public inspection on Sundays.

LONDON AND WESTMINSTER SUBTERRANEAN RAILWAY.—A company has just started, having for its object the construction of a new subterranean line of railway from Leicester-square to the Bricklayers' Arms station of the South-Eastern Railway. It is proposed that the line should pass under the Thames between Hungerford and Waterloo bridges, proceeding thence, by way of the New-cut, St. George's-circus, and the London-road, to the Old Kent-road.

CHURCH AFFAIRS IN ST. PANCRA.—The vestry, having taken into consideration the bill proposed by the Vicar for the better regulation and management of the ecclesiastical affairs of the parish, is of opinion that it is calculated to increase the pastoral efficiency of the Established Church, without affecting the rights of Christians of other denominations, or compromising in any degree the present freedom of the ratepayers from compulsory church-rates; and have, therefore, recommended the appointment of a committee to consider the details of the bill, and report to the vestry.

NEW DOCKS IN SOUTHWARK.—A company has been started, having for its object the construction of new docks, to be called the Wellington Docks, Southwark, the entrance to which will be nearly opposite to the St. Katharine Docks. The company, in their notices of application to Parliament, state that they intend to apply for powers to connect the docks by a tramway or railway with the South-Eastern, and the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railways; and also to make a new street, commencing on Jamaica-level and terminating at Orange-place, Deptford, Lower-road.

DIRTY DEPTFORD.—This locality, notwithstanding all that has been done by the Board of Health, contains places completely unfit for human habitation. There is an immense quantity of filthy refuse lying on the surface of the ground, evaporating in the day to the injury of the public health, and there are no drains to take it away.

OUTRAGE AT PECKHAM.—On Sunday night last a daring outrage was committed at the house of Mr. Young, of South Peckham. Soon after the family had gone to church, leaving the house in charge of a female domestic, a gentlemanly-looking man knocked at the door, and asked if Mr. Young was at home. The servant answered in the negative, upon which the fellow pushed by her into the passage, saying that he would write a note; and before the girl could remonstrate, he seized her by the throat and threatened to kill her. He then let in two accomplices, who, having bound her hand and foot thrust her into a cupboard, proceeded to ransack the house, from which they took away plate and other property valued at some hundreds of pounds sterling. When Mr. Young returned home, he was obliged to borrow a ladder to obtain entrance.

THE WIFE MURDERER.—The execution of Mobbs is now fixed to take place in front of Newgate on Monday morning next. The culprit continues to maintain the same impassible demeanour, and appears to have long made up his mind as to his ultimate fate. To-day his children (four in number) visited their miserable parent, and took their last farewell.

EXTENSIVE FIRE.—A very serious fire occurred on Saturday morning last, at an early hour, on the premises of Messrs. Perry and Davies, machine-printers, Newington Butts. The timely arrival of the Royal Society's fire-escape was the means of rescuing five persons who must otherwise have perished in a most lamentable manner. Before the flames were brought under, nearly the whole of the stock in the building was destroyed. Messrs. Perry and Davies were insured in the Phoenix and Royal Exchange. The origin of the fire is unknown.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Notwithstanding the stirring news from the East, and the settlement in the Foreign and Railway Share Markets, Consols have been tolerably firm during the whole of the week, and prices have kept up remarkably well. The purchases of Money Stock have not been so extensive as of late; nevertheless, a full average business has been doing, chiefly on account of the public. There has been a slight increase in the supply of stock; still, however, the "backwardation" in the quotations has continued.

The Directors of the Bank of England intimated a few days since that they were prepared to pay off the dissentient holders of the petty South Sea Stock at once, on receiving a discount of 4 per cent. As this proposal met with no success, the rate has since been lowered to 3 per cent; but, up to this time, very few payments have been made.

The imports of the precious metals from the United States have amounted to 1,000,000 dollars. These remittances are likely to continue, as we learn that an immense number of American securities—valued at £12,000,000 sterling—lately held in this country, have been forwarded to the United States for sale. From the Brazils, £9000 has been imported, and we have had an arrival of £300,000 in gold from Australia.

The supply of money for commercial purposes has been large, and first-class bills have been done in Lombard-street, at 4½ to 4¾ per cent. Prime short-dated paper is readily discounted out of doors, at 4½ to 4¾ per cent.

On Monday Consols were steady. The Three per Cents marked 94½ to 94¾; the Three per Cents Reduced, 93½ to 93¾; the New Three and a Quarter per Cents, 95½ to 95¾. Bank Stock was 216; India Bonds, 1s. dis. to 2s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 2s. prem.; Long Annuities, 5½. There was rather more firmness in the Market both on Tuesday and Wednesday. On the latter day the Three per Cents touched 95; the Three per Cents Reduced, 94; and the New Three and a Quarter per Cents, 96. The business done in National Securities, on Thursday, was rather extensive, and the Three per Cents were done at 94½ to 95½ for Transfer, and 94½ to 95 for the Account. Stock was scarce. Bank Stock ruled at from 217 to 218. The New Three and a Quarter per Cents were 95½ to 96; and the Three per Cents Reduced, 93½ to 94. Exchequer-bills, 4s. to 7s. prem.; and India Bonds, par to 2s. prem.

Miscellaneous Shares have been tolerably firm, and a fair average business has been doing in them. Hungerford Bridge, 12; Waterloo, 51; Vauxhall, 23½; Albion Insurance, 95; Atlas, 20; Argus Life, 23; County, 127; European, 20½; Globe, 142 to 143½; Imperial Fire, 375; Ditto Life, 20; Law Life, 56½; Phoenix, 185; Rock, 84; Royal Exchange, 242; Sun Life, 65; Universal, 45½; Berlin Waterworks, 1½; East London, 130; Southwark and Vauxhall, 89½; West Middlesex, 113; London Docks, 110½ to 110; Southampton, 35½; Australian Royal Mail, 3½; Canada Five per Cent Bonds, 100; Ditto Six per Cent Bonds, 113; Ditto, 114 to 115; General Steam Navigation, 263; General Screw Steam, 12½ to 13; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 71; Ditto, New, 40.

Owing to the large payments for foreign corn, the stock of bullion in the Bank of France is rapidly diminishing. Since the commencement of the present year, the drain has amounted to nearly £6,500,000. From this country, parcels of gold continue to be forwarded to Paris.

Most Foreign Securities have been tolerably firm. Russian Bonds have kept up remarkably well. Mexicans have been done at 26½; Spanish Deferred, 21½ to 22; the Certificates, 5½ to 5¾ per cent; Peruvian Three per Cents, 49 to 51; Belgian Four and a Half per Cents, 96 ex div.; Dutch Two and a Half per Cents, 62½; Ditto, Four per Cents, 94½; Russian Four and a Half per Cents, 98½; Sardinian Five per Cents, 92.

Railway Shares have been steady; but the actual business doing has been comparatively small. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Caledonian, 54½; Eastern Counties, 13½; Great Northern, 84; Ditto A Stock, 60½; Great Western, 81½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 65½; Leeds Northern, 134; London and Brighton, 97; London and North-Western, 102½; Ditto, Fifth, 124; Ditto, Eighth, 24; London and South-Western, 76½; Ditto, £50 Shares, 30½; Midland, 62; Newport, Abercromby, and Hereford, 12½; Norfolk, 51; North British, 29; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 38½; South-Eastern, 61; South Wales, 34; York and North Midland, 48½.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Wear Valley, 31.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 99½; East Anglian, 41; Eastern Counties, New Six per Cent Stock, 13½; Great Northern Five per Cent, 113½; Ditto, Five per Cent, redeemable at 10 per cent prem., 109½; Great Western Four and a Half per Cent, 109; London and South-Western Thirds, 7½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, New £10, 9½; Ditto £6, 8½; Consolidated Bristol and Birmingham, Six per Cent, 140½; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 9½; South-Eastern, 24.

FOREIGN.—East Indian, 24 ex new; Great Indian Peninsula, 6; Luxembourg, 10; Ditto, Railway, 6½; Ditto, Guaranteed, 6; Namur and Liege, with interest, 7½; Northern of France, 33½; Paris and Lyons, 25½; Paris and Strasbourg, 32½, ex div. and ex new; Sambre and Meuse, 84.

Mining Shares have ruled very flat, and rather lower. On Thursday, Agua Fria were 1½; Ave Maria, ½; Baden, ½; Imperial Brazilian, 6; Great Nugget Vein, Scrip, 2½; Lake Bathurst, ½; Linares, 11½; Mariquita, ½; New Grenada, ½; Nouveau Monde, 18; Quartz Rock, 1; Rhymney Iron, 32; Santiago de Cuba, 4½; West Mariposa, 1.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, Nov. 14.—To-day's market was but moderately supplied with English wheat, in which a full average business was transacted, at last week's prices. Foreign wheat, the show of which was good, moved off steadily, and, in some instances, the quotations were rather higher than on this day's market. We were well supplied with barley, which sold slowly, at 1s. per quarter less money. Malt was offering on lower terms. Oats sold at previous quotations. Beans were 2s. per quarter dearer. Peas and flour were unaltered.

Nov. 16.—For most articles of grain we had a fair demand, at Monday's quotations.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 61s. to 75s.; ditto, white, 65s. to 82s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 60s. to 74s.; ditto, white, —s. to —s.; rye, 38s. to 44s.; grinding barley, 32s. to 38s.; distilling ditto, 35s. to 37s.; malted ditto, 42s. to 47s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 64s. to 68s.; brown ditto, 40s. to 42s.; Kingston and Ware, 60s. to 70s.; Chevalier, 70s. to 72s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 25s. to 27s.; potato ditto, 27s. to 30s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 23s. to 26s.; ditto, white, 25s. to 28s.; tick beans, new, 43s. to 45s.; ditto, old, 48s. to 52s.; grey peas, 42s. to 45s.; mangle, 45s. to 48s.; white, 62s. to 64s.; boilers, 63s. to 65s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 70s. to 72s.; Suffolk, 57s. to 62s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 57s. to 62s. per 280 lbs. Foreign: French flour, —s. to —s. per sack; American, 32s. to 41s. per barrel.

Seeds.—Our market continues tolerably firm. In prices we have no alteration to notice.

Linsed, English, sowing, 58s. to 60s.; Baltic crushing, 47s. to 52s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 50s. to 54s.; hempseed, 33s. to 35s. per quarter; Coriander, 10s. to 15s. per cwt.; Brown mustard-seed, 10s. to 13s.; white ditto, 15s. to 18s.; and tares, 7s. 6d. to 8s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £29 to £32 per last of ten quarters. Linsed cakes, English, 43s. 6d. to 41s. 10s.; ditto, foreign, 43s. 6d. to 41s. 10s. per ton. Rapeseed cakes, 46s. 6d. to 46s. 10s. per ton. Canary, 65s. to 70s. per quarter. Clover-seed, nominal.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 11d. to 11½d.; of household ditto, 9d. to 10½d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 73s. 7d.; barley, 42s. 2d.; oats, 25s. 5d.; rye, 42s. 7d.; beans, 40s. 3d.; peas, 56s. 7d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 69s. 3d.; barley, 40s. 7d.; oats, 24s. 5d.; rye, 40s. 8d.; beans, 47s. 1d.; peas, 50s. 4d.

Duties.—Wheat, 1s.; barley, 1s.; oats, 1s.; rye, 1s.; beans, 1s.; peas, 1s.

Tea.—The shipments from China having been small, our market is rather active, and prices are on the advance. Common sound Congou, 1s. 9d. to 1s. 1½d. per lb. The total clearance to Saturday last was 38 015,952 lb.

Sugar.—Our market has ruled firm, and the quotations have been well supported. Fine yellow Barbadoes, 38s. to 39s. 6d.; middling to good, 31s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.; good to fine yellow St. Lucia, 35s. 6d. to 38s.; ordinary to middling yellow Demerara, 33s. 6d. to 34s. 6d.; fine yellow Mauritius, 41s. per cwt. Refined goods are tolerably firm. Brown lump, 43s. 6d.; and grocery, 44s. to 47s. per cwt. Sugar is dearer than last week. Foreign parcels command full currencies. Good ordinary native Ceylon has changed hands at from 46s. to 47s. per cwt.

Rice.—Rather a large business is doing in this article, at extreme rates.

Provisions.—There is a good inquiry for all kinds of butter, at an advance in prices of from 2s. to, in some instances, 4s. per cwt. The bacon market is dull, and 1s. per cwt. less money. Most other kinds of provisions are in but moderate request.

Tallow.—Our market is firm and the quotations are well supported. P.Y.C., on the spot, 55s. 9d. to 56s. 6d.; all the year, 55s. 6d.; and for the spring, 56s. 6d., per cwt. The shipments from St. Petersburg are 102,060 casks, against 83,386 ditto in 1852.

Oils.—The demand generally is heavy, and prices are tending downwards. Spirits, of Turpentine, £2 12s. in bunches, £2 14s. rough, 14s. per cwt.

Spirits.—The demand for rum is heavy, and prices are barely supported. Proof Leeward, 2s. 7d. to 2s. 7½d.; East India, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 6½d. per gallon. We have a fair sale for brandy, at extreme rates. Cognac, best brands of 1851, 8s. 16d. to 8s. 9d. per gallon; B-tish-made spirit, 11s.; gin, 22 per cent under proof, 9s. 9d.; 17 ditto, 10s. 3d. Geneva, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 6d. per gallon.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 5s. to £3 15s.; clover ditto, £4 0s. to £6 10s.; and straw, £1 14s. to £2 2s. per load.

Coals.—Chester Main, 20s. 6d.; Tanfield Moor, 19s. 6d.; Clarke, 19s.; Lawson, 21s. 6d.; Hutton, 23s. 9d.; Haswell, 23s. 9d.; Lambton, 23s. 6d. per ton.

Hops.—Fine hops continue in good request, at very full prices. In other kinds only a moderate business is doing, yet quotations are well supported.

Wool.—The public sales have been brought to a close. The fall in prices has been 1½d. per lb. on the average.

Potatoes.—The supplies being on the increase, the demand is less active, and the quotations have a downward tendency. Shaws, 115s. to 135s.; regents, 155s. to 180s.; foreign, 130s. to 155s. per ton.

Smoked.—Although the supplies of each kind of fat stock have been good, the general demand has ruled steady, as follows:—

Beef, from 2s. 8d. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 0d. to 5s. 2d.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d. per 8 lb., to sink the offals.

Newgate and Leadenhall.—A full average business has been transacted, at very full prices.

Beef, from 2s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.; mutton, 2s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 5s. 0d. per 8 lb., by the carcass.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, NOV. 11.

FOREIGN OFFICE.—Nov. 10.

The Queen has been pleased to approve of Mr. Robert Stein, as Consul at Port Louis, Mauritius, for his Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway.

WAR OFFICE.—Nov. 11.

2nd Dragoons: Lieutenant J. A. Freeman to be Captain, vice Scobell; Cornet W. T. Prentiss to be Lieutenant, vice Freeman.

13th Foot: Ensign J. F. Sweeney to be Lieutenant, vice Wilkie. 14th: Captain G. L. Proby to be Captain, vice Macdonald. 15th: Lieutenant A. Applewhite to be Lieutenant, vice Tilghman. 30th: Lieutenant-Colonel R. Cole to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Brewet-Colonel Wright, C.B.; Major W. Munro to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Cole; Captain W. C. Wolfe to be Major, vice Munro; Lieutenant W. H. H. Warner to be Captain, vice W. C. Wolfe; Ensign C. Milligan to be Lieutenant, vice Warner; G. H. Young to be Ensign, vice Milligan.

41st: Lieut. G. Skirwith to be Captain, vice W. Allen to be Lieut., vice Skipwith; A. G. Lowry to be Ensign, vice Allan. 42nd: Lieut. H. C. Jervoise to be Lieut., vice Kennedy. 46th: R. Coote to be Ensign, vice Stretton. 53rd: Lieut. W. Peel to be Paymaster, vice Hall. 57th: Lord E. M. Vane to be Ensign, vice Hall. 60th: Second Lieut. H. Cockburn to be First Lieut., vice Du Cane. 67th: B. T. Disney to be Ensign, vice Bassett. 69th: O. Roberts to be Ensign, vice Leggett. 72nd: Lieut. A. Allison to be Captain, vice Evelyn; Ensign Hon. S. R. H. Ward to be Lieut., vice Allison; Ensign G. L. Bassett to be Ensign, vice Ward. 74th: Capt. R. Macdonald to be Captain, vice Proby.

2nd West India Regiment: Ensign E. D. Cockell to be Lieut., vice Leslie; R. Bourne to be Ensign, vice Cockell; J. Harger to be Ensign, vice Hill.

HOSPITAL STAFF.—T. R. Whitty to be Assist.-Surgeon to the Forces, vice W. Sinclair.

BANKRUPTCY.

E. ORPHIN, Brighton, builder. R. HUGHES, Monk Wearmouth Shore, Durham, ship-builder and timber-merchant. F. J. HENSLEY, Montagu-place, Russell-square, apothecary. J. C. FAWCETT, Yorkshire, draper and milliner. R. ANDERSON, Wright's-lane, Kensington, licensed victualler and brickmaker. W. LYNALL, Birmingham, plumber and glazier. J